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PUBLIC WORKS MINISTER RETURNS FROM MOSCOW

PY092119 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Public Works and Service Minister Conrado Bauer has returned to the country from Moscow, where he attended a meeting of the Environment Engineering Committee [Comite de Ingenieria del Ambiente]. Bauer, who also visited France and Italy, spoke to reporters at Ezeiza International Airport, referring especially to the Yacyreta Hydroelectric dam issue in his reply to reporters' questions. He also referred to the impact of the gasoline price increase on inflation. This is what he told reporters at Ezeiza Airport:

[Begin relayed report from Ezeiza airport] On arriving at Ezeiza airport, we asked the minister whether there are any difficulties regarding the Yacyreta hydroelectric dam. This is what he answered:

[Begin Bauer recording] Well, first of all I can say that we have always had difficulties but we are gradually overcoming them. We feel that everything is working smoothly now, although there are things that have to be solved yet. We trust, however, that we will be able to fulfill the program outlined last year. The intention is that the awarding of the works should become effective between now and next month, and that thee works should in effect be initiated during the second half of this year, hopefully by October. [end recording] [end relayed report]

NAVY COMMANDER ARRIVES BACK FROM COLOMBIA

PY091235 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2338 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jun (DYN) -- Navy Commander-in-Chief Admiral Ruben Franco returned tonight to Argentina after having participated in a meeting of American navy chiefs that was held in Colombia. Franco arrived, in a flight made by a Navy plane at the Aeronaval Base of Ezeiza Airport, where he was met by Vice Admiral Carlos Carpintero, chief of the Navy's general staff, and other Navy officers.

NEW BOARD OF 62 ORGANIZATIONS PROCLAIMED

PY092115 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2312 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 8 Jun (TELAM) -- The plenary session of the 62 parallel Peronist Organizations asserted here today that we obey a doctrine and not a man, and noted that it is not a question of returning to Peron but of following his doctrine. It also warned that the handpicking practice adopted by past leaderships is a method that arouses suspicion against those who practice it. This statement was made in a declaration published during the national meeting of leaders of the 62 organizations, held today in a hotel located in the neighborhood of Constitucion. Two of the four secretaries general of the General Confederation of Labor of Azopardo Street [AGT-Azopardo] attended the meeting. They are Jorge Triaca (plastic industry) and Jorge Lujan (glass industry workers), in addition to Dr Angel Federico Robledo, head of the Coordinating Board for Justicialist Action. The leadership of the 62 Organizations of Azopardo Street we officially proclaimed during the plenary session. This leadership will be headed by Delfor Gimenez (textile) and Rodolfo Soberano (mills), who together with 10 other leaders will make up the executive board of this political-labor organization.

During the proclamation ceremony, attended by approximately 1,000 persons, both Gimenez and Soberano made speeches. They both stressed the need to create a democratic labor movement that will include all workers regardless of their political creeds.

The new executive board of the 62 Organizations is made up, in addition to its secretaries general Gimenez and Soberano, of the following persons: Juan Racchini (sodas) and Juan Horvath (ATE -- Association of State Workers) as political secretaries; Ruben Diequez (UOM -- Metal Workers Union) and Alberto Fernandez (service stations) as union and internal affairs secretaries; Ruben Pereyra (water works) and Ricardo Garcia (ice industry) as finance secretaries; Enrique Mico (clothes) and Carlos West Ocampo (health) as press secretaries; and Benjamin Gaitan [fiteros -- presumably textile workers] and Miguel Angel Lopez [FOECYT -- Federation of Postal and Telecommunications Workers] as indoctrination secretary.

MOLOTOV COCKTAILS DAMAGE UNION LEADER'S HOME

PY081908 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1105 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jun (DYN) -- Two Molotov cocktails went off this morning at a construction union leader's home causing some material damage but no injuries, the police reported today. The blasts occurred at 0230 in front of the house at 3216 Terrada St, in the Flores metropolitan district where Reynaldo Ariel Coligno and his family reside.

According to the reports, Coligno is a member of the White and Light Blue ticket of the Construction Workers Union of the Argentine Republic (UOCRA), which has been intervened by the government since 1976. The two explosions caused material damage to doors and windows of the house and also tore down part of the masonry, but there were no injuries.

UOCRA is one of the large unions, whose normalization through internal elections was announced this year by Labor Minister Hector Villaveiran.

SOCIALIST PARTIES NOMINATE JOINT CANDIDATES

PY081632 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 7 Jun 83 p 8

[Excerpt] The Popular Socialist Party, the Chaco Socialist Party, and the Argentine Socialist Confederation have jointly nominated Guillermo Estevez Boero and Edgardo Rossi as condidates for president and vice president for the upcoming 30 October elections. The joint socialist ticket will participate in the elections under the name of the Popular Socialist Party, which obtained the Electoral Board's recognition last week.

200,000 HOMELESS; GOVERNMENT MEASURES SCORED

PY082225 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 8 Jun 83 p 11

[Excerpt] The joint Military Command in the northeastern emergency zone yesterday reported that 203,395 people had been evacuated from their flooded homes and that 150,000 corresponded to the provinces of Chaco and Formosa. In the meantime there has been little change in the situation, which continues to be extremely serious in all the affected provinces. The crest of the flood is expected to hit the port of Rosario tomorrow where the level of the Parana will probably exceed the mark of 6.10 metres. The water continues to rise at Baradero, Rosario, San Nicolas and San Pedro. At Santa Fe the Parana remains stationary at 7.11 metres, the second highest level so far this century.

The Multiparty organization is to issue a statement today calling upon the military government to "take greater and more energetic action," to solve the problems of the flood victims. The statement is said to contain short, medium and long-range suggestions to deal with the periodical floods which devastate several northeastern provinces. Leaders of the country's five major parties met on Monday at the home of Arturo Frondizi, the Radical Party leader and former president of the nation to draw up the statement. They agreed that the steps taken by the military government to solve the flood crisis have been insufficient.

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENTS APPROVE AMBASSADORS -- Buenos Aires, 31 May (TELAM) -- The Guyanese Government has agreed to the designation of Guillermo D. Conti as Argentine ambassador. Conti will replace Ignacio Pico Estrada. The Jamaican Government has agreed to the designation of Ignacio Esteban Pico Estrada as new Argentine ambassador. Pico Estrada will replace Rafael Gowland. The Government of St Lucia has agreed to the designation of Carlos Manuel Muniz as concurrent Argentine ambassador. Muniz is Argentina's representative to the United Nations and his permanent residence is in New York. [Summary] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0031 GMT 31 May 83 PY]

AMBASSADORS' ACCEPTANCES REQUESTED -- The Argentine Government has requested the acceptance of Marcelo Gabastou as ambassador to Malasya and of Ricardo Elizondo as ambassador to Singapore. [Excerpt] [Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 6 Jun 83 p 13 PY]

NEW PARAGUAYAN AMBASSADOR -- Buenos Aires, 30 May (TELAM) -- The Argentine Government has agreed to the designation of Luis Gonzalez Arias as new Paraguayan ambassador. Arias will replace outgoing ambassador Antonio Masulli Fuster. [Summary] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0031 GMT 31 May 83 PY]

TRANSPORTATION SECRETARIAT CREATED -- Buenos Aires, 28 May (NA) -- The executive branch has created the Transportation Secretariat, which will operate within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Public Works and Services. [Summary] [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2100 GMT 28 May 83 PY]

PANAMERICAN TRANSPORT CONGRESS -- The Panamerican Transport Congress closed on Sunday, 5 June. An international transport and transport industries and services exposition was held simultaneously. [Summary] [Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 8 Jun 83 p 6 PY]

PRICE INCREASE STATISTICS -- Buenos Aires, 6 Jun (NA) -- The Economy Ministry reported today that consumer prices increased 9.1 percent, wholesale prices increased 10.1 percent, and construction prices increased 11.6 percent during May. The Economy Ministry added that consumer prices increased 75.4 percent thus far this year and 310.1 percent in the past 12 months. [Text] [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2109 GMT 6 Jun 83 PY]

FUEL PURCHASES REPORTED -- Buenos Aires, 31 May (NA) -- The Energy Secretariat has reported that Argentina purchased no oil during the first 4 months of 1983 and that it imported 640,000 cubic meters of natural gas and 197,000 cubic meters [as received] of coal during the same period. [Summary] [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2150 GMT 31 May 83 PY]

ECONOMIC MEASURES IN NEW PACKAGE TO BE ADOPTED

PY100058 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 9 Jun 83 p 17

[Preview of measures in new economic package to be adopted by the government]

[Text] -- Increase by an average of 45 percent in the price of oil byproducts. The new prices are 303 cruzeiros (44.3 percent) for gasoline; 191 cruzeiros (46.9 percent) for diesel; 1,885 cruzeiros (46.5 percent) for cooking lpg bottle; and 178 cruzeiros (44.7 percent) for fuel alcohol.

-- Withhold 4 percent tax on earnings in open market under-90-day investments by individuals and corporations.

-- Withhold 10 percent tax on capital earnings (interest, dividends, profits, etc.) of individuals and corporations.

-- Elevate to 5 percent interest on agricultural loans for production, investment, and marketing, plus a percentage of the monetary correction in teh following manner: central-south region, 85 percent in 1983, 95 percent in 1984, and 100 percent in 1985; other regions (north-northeast), 70 percent in 1983, 80 percent in 1984, and 90 percent in 1985. Interest will be lowered to 3 percent in 1985, although there is the possibility that this interest rate will already go into effect this year, There might be a readjustment downward for the northeast.

-- Eliminate export tax (foreign exchange withholdings)

-- Increase interest rates on loans to small-and medium-sized enterprises in terms practically identical to those for agricultural loans.

-- Propose raising interest rates to 70 percent of the monetary correction for financing export products manufacture, but setting a date to go into effect.

-- Reduce financial operation tax (except on direct consumers credit) from 4.9 to 1.5 percent.

-- Raise legal reserves from 5 to 10 percent on time deposits, to go into effect gradually as the latter deposits grow.

-- Set a ceiling for official and private bank loans to state enterprises, replacing the credit ceiling for the entire system.

-- Reduce by half the state enterprises' deficit of 3.18 trillion cruzeiros -- estimated at 6 percent of a GDP of 53 trillion cruzeiros. This will represent a cut of 1.59 trillion cruzeiros. Adding the reduction of financing, the total cut could approach 3 trillion cruzeiros.

-- Advance profit tax collection from financial institutions to July 1983.

-- Regulate the administration of and the expenditures on fringe benefits in state enterprises: 1) fix the contribution of employees and enterprises to their own pension funds; 2) forbid the distribution of fictitious financial profits resulting from applying the monetary correction to their liquid assets;

3) elect the minister to whom the enterprise is subordinated to head their administrative council; 4) limit employees yearly remuneration to 13 times the monthly salary; 5) and freeze promotions and bonuses if it can be done legally, otherwise, this measure will be discarded.

-- Increase the price of wheat immediately by a yet to be decided and politically acceptable percentage. The 60 percent initially proposed was considered too high. The removal of subsidies on wheat and oil could save as much as 850 billion cruzeiros by government's estimates.

-- Review the question of removal of indexation, probably through the creation of an informal work group which will present a definite proposal.

Minister Assures Results

PY100239 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Excerpts] Talking to the Brazilian News Agency today, Planning Minister Delfim Netto justified the new economic measures adopted by the government by saying that all of them together should have a reasonable effect on the inflation rate. According to the minister, it must understand that Brazil is facing long-term problems, namely, readjusting its economy to the present world situation. This process should begin by tackling the short-term problem of fighting inflation through the immediate reduction of the fiscal deficit. The minister said that inflation has to be fought head on, and for that reason President Figueiredo authorized the adoption of a set of measures which should yield the expected results.

The minister explained that the new measures do not address the problem of deindexation because this is a very complex question, and the government prefers to have a less disturbing policy for curbing inflation. Without saying when the new measures will start producing positive results, minister Netto affirmed that the decisions made by the government make up a balanced package which will yield the intended results.

[Begin Netto recording] This is a harmonious and balanced set of measures, which will produce results. Of course, as you must understand, sacrifices will be imposed, but I believe that the sacrifices will be bearable, sacrifices that will not be in vain inasmuch as they will be rewarded with results. [end recording].

Minister Netto then said that he does not see any discrepancy between the economic package and the democratic liberalization being promoted by President Figueiredo, because the results from the adoption of these measures will make it possible for the government to continue moving forward with its objective of building an open society.

[Begin Netto recording] I am sure that this policy will yield results and some of them will serve the great objective of building an open and well-functioning society. Part of this objective is bringing inflation under control, which will be one of the most important achievements from the social standpoint. [end recording].

GOVERNMENT TO ASK U.S. HELP WITH FOREIGN DEBT

PY090250 Rio de Janeiro JOURNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 6 Jun 83 p 14

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- The government has begun to discuss the possibility of stretching out its foreign debt over a longer period of time through a government-to-government understanding with the United States.

The PDS [Social Democratic Party] politician who provided this information said that President Figueiredo is convinced of the need to reconcile the IMF demands and his government's political objectives. So the economic package that will be announced the day after tomorrow will represent the government's position, not swayed by the position of anyone in particular. According to the same source, the economic package will be the first step toward the abovementioned agreement.

The PDS politician, who has access to Planalto Palace, said that the fact that the United States is the IMF's biggest contributor makes the renegotiation conducive through a government-to-government dialogue, rather than through the IMF and the banks, as it was done in December 1982. The program for the readjustment of the Brazilian economy now hinges on the need to reduce the public deficit and to prevent the worsening of the foreign exchange crisis. The same politician argued that 70 percent of Brazilian exports are financed for 30 to 180 days, and only 13 percent of Brazilian purchases abroad are paid in cash. He said that in May, for instance, when a $500-million trade surplus is expected ($1.4-million imports) $600 million are committed to oil import. In his view, this prevents a unilaterally-declared moratorium while making attractive a government-to-government negotiation. In the opinion of the PDS politician and another Planalto source, this type of government-to-government negotiation will have to include the disposition to suspend general customs restrictions on the part of the United States to permit expansion of Brazilian exports. Both sources claim that the biggest problem is not Brazil's incapacity to generate earnings, but the protectionist barriers being raised continously by the United States.

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT TO SEEK FOREIGN CREDIT

PY091230 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 8 Jun 83 p 19

[Excerpts] The Central Bank directors who are responsible for coordinating the four projects [of the Brazilian Government] for refinancing Brazil's foreign debt and Central Bank President Carlos Langoni will be in the United States all next week, trying to obtain from U.S. private bankers funds for projects III and IV [funds for stretched-out payment of short-term import operations and interbank credits for Brazilian banks operating abroad respectively] for a total of $3.3 billion. They will also discuss changing the composition of the so-called Linking Group, which is currently made up of 18 foreign financial institutions, charged with directly supervising the four Brazilian projects [project I for amortization of debts falling due in 1983, and project II for a $4.4 billion loan from the IMF]. The number of institutions will be increased, and the group will act as an advisory committee to the Brazilian Government. Director Jose Carlos Madeira Serrano, who coordinates projects I, II, and III, said that the U.S. Government will not be contacted. Contacts will be made with private financial institutions, from which the Brazilian Government expects to obtain funds to meet the goals of $7.5 billion under project IV, and of $10.2 billion under project III.

FIRMS' SUCCESS AT PARIS AIR SHOW NOTED

PY081650 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 6 Jun 83 p 9

[Text] Paris -- Yesterday, during the closing of the 35th aeronautics and space exhibition in Paris, Embraer [Brazilian Aeronautics Company] confirmed the sale of seven Bandeirante airplanes and a sales option for Brasilia aircraft to the United States in contracts totaling $30 million (approximately 15 billion cruzeiros). The other Brazilian company that took part in the exhibition -- Avibras -- sold a new mobile multiple rocket system to Middle East countries.

Embraer concentrated its efforts, however, on the Tucano military aircraft, which made demonstrations during the air show that marked the closing of the exhibition in Le Bourget an exhibition which over 500,000 people attended. Embraer expects to sell about 250 Tucano planes, more than 100 of them to England where this aircraft is competing in the selection of a new training plane for the air force.

At the closing of the exhibition, Embraer's chairman, Brigadier General Osires Silva, singled out two events that were significant for the Brazilians: the opening at Le Bourget of Embraer international aviation, and the "more effective presence of prospective customers, which meant less talk and more business."

For Avibras, which took part in the exhibition for the first time, the results were also promising, since the new rocket system sold to the Middle East -- the countries were not disclosed -- will be delivered already in 1983.

Yesterday, at the closing of the exhibition, the world's 60 most sophisticated airplanes put on a superb air show. Yet the greatest attraction was the U.S. spacecraft Enterprise, fixed atop a huge Boeing 747 jumbo jet which flew over Paris one last time and then flew on to England.

ARGENTINE AIRCRAFT ORDERS AWAITING PAYMENT

PY091630 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 8 Jun 83 p 19

[Text] Sao Jose dos Campos, Sao Paulo (O GLOBO) -- The Brazilian Aeronautics Company [Embraer] is still awaiting the payment of approximately $50 million by Argentina in order to begin the delivery of 11 Xavante jet planes designed for advanced military training and ground attack. The negotiation was conducted entirely by Embraer and the Argentine Navy, and the contracts were signed in December 1982. However, both Itamaraty and the Argentine Air Force have denied this transaction several times.

According to sources close to the Aeronautics Ministry, none of these airplanes -- manufactured in Brazil over the past 10 years under the license of the Italian Aermacchi Industry -- have been handed over to Argentina so far, for lack of payment. All the 11 planes are still in Sao Jose dos Campos, although some of them have been tested in Argentina. The airplanes have been painted in camouflage colors, with the registration in the Argentine Navy, the number of order in the squadron, and the Argentine white and blue flag on the upper part of the tail.

The negotiation of these airplanes with Argentina -- where a model similar to the Xavante is manufactured, although of a later generation and with a single seat in the cockpit -- was conducted directly by Aeronautics Minister Delio Jardim de Mattos and caused several problems. The Argentine Air Force opposed the purchase of these airplanes by the Navy and defended the renewal of the Italian Aermacchi license to manufacture new planes. When the negotiation was concluded, Brazil received protests from Great Britain, which, as a consequence of the conflict over the Malvinas Islands, put pressure on Embraer to prevent the sale and the reequipment of the Argentine Navy.

The argument used by Embraer to defend these sales -- without losing the possibility of negotiating with Great Britain the sale of approximately 300 Tucano T-27 training planes to reequip the British aviation schools -- was that the negotiation with Argentina included several products of British industries, such as Rolls Royce engines, ejectable seats -- two in each Xavante plane manufactured by Martin Baker -- and other airplane equipment.

VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY REPORTS AGITATION ACTS

PY091357 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] The Superior Council of the Catholic University of Valparaiso has reported that unauthorized persons are carrying out political activities in this university.

This council has also asked Rector (Matias Valenzuela Labrac) to request that police forces be sent to prevent political activists from entering the university.

The council has released a communique stating that this university has been chosen by a group of agitators to promote demonstrations against the government. The communique adds that this university has been chosen because of its location in the center of this important port of Valparaiso.

The council also accusses the political activists of threatening professors and students who have opposed the activities of these totalitarian elements.

GOLD RESERVES' USE TO GUARANTEE LOANS DENIED

PY100107 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Finance Minister Carlos Caceres categorically denied that the international gold reserves have been used to guarantee foreign loans. The minister thus refuted a report by an interntional news agency. The report, datelined New York, stated that Chile will reportedly have to deposit 16,854 kg of gold in the Bank of London as a guarantee for new credits.

The AFP report adds that this amount of gold represents one third of the Chilean gold reserves, and that it would be the first time that a Latin American country would be forced to actually deposit its gold reserves as a guarantee. This report was categorically denied by Minister Caceres in the following terms:

[Begin Caceres recording] In the speech I addressed to the nation last week [passage indistinct] that the Chilean Government has not deposited its gold reserves as guarantee for the bridge loan it hoped to obtain from the international banking sector.

I once again reiterate that our gold reserves have not and will not be used as guarantee for any type of credit. We have already reached an agreement with the Bank for International Settlements and the 12 banks committee for them to grant us the bridge loan without the need for us to deposit our gold reserves as guarantee. Any information that differs from what I have stated is absolutely mistaken. [end recording]

The AFP report stating that Chile will reportedly have to deposit 16,854 kg of gold in the Bank of London as a guarantee for new international credits was thus officially denied.

BETANCUR, HERRERA TO MEET AT BORDER 17 JUN

PA090347 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Cucuta -- Colombian President Belisario Betancur and Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins will meet 17 June in this border area. They will meet on the occasion of the dedication of La Confraternidad Park in San Antonio. This will probably be the last metting between the two leaders, and will allow them to review the difficult situation along the border, the crisis in Central America, and foreign exchange problems. On the occasion of the two leaders' visit, the government officials will also organize activities to commemorate the so-called 1813 admirable campaign carried out quite successfully by Simon Bolivar.

BETANCUR SENDS MESSAGE TO UNCTAD MEETING

PA091701 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Colombian President Belisario Betancur today sent a message to Lazar Mojsov, chairman of the Sixth UNCTAD meeting being held in Belgrade. In this message, Betancur said that the world economy should be provided with better liquidity levels, multilateral credit organizations must be strengthened, and a 5-percent tax should be levied on arms purchases as well as on bets and games of chance. The chief of state expressed concern over the origins and effects of the world economic crisis, and demanded a freeze on the current protectionist policies of industrialized countries such as the United States.

FINANCE MINISTER ON VENEZUELAN ECONOMIC MEASURES

PA091643 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Bogota -- The Colombian Government has expressed concern over Venezuela's hesitation to implement rates for the bilateral negotiation of foreign exchange and noted that a paralysis in this sector is unadvisable for both countries. Finance Minister Edgar Gutierrez Castro urged the Venezuelan Government to establish exchange rates to make trade operations between the two nations easier. He warned that the paralysis and standstill being experienced in this sector for the past few months is detrimental for the economies of Venezuela and Colombia. In remarks to VENPRESS, Gutierrez Castro noted that Colombia understood the nature of measures taken by the Venezuelan Government in the wake of its financial crisis, but cautioned that the existing uncertainty concerning mechanisms for the negotiation of our foreign exchange on the border is unadvisable for Colombia, as well as for Venezuela.

FARC, M-19 ACTIVITIES, COMBAT REPORTED

Guerrillas Kill 2 Policemen

PA072247 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 7 Jun 83

[Text] Medellin -- Two policemen and a guerrilla were killed in a guerrilla attack in Antioquia Department. Police told CARACOL that the action occurred in Maceo municipality, located 149 km from Medellin, where a group of five men and a women arrived in the town at midnight to attack the police station.

The guerrillas, who belonged to one of the fronts of the self-styled Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, opened fire on policemen Carlos Alberto Hernandez Campillo and Saul Antonio Pulvarin Davila, who were patrolling the town's main square. Sixteen other policemen who were resting reacted and exchanged gunfire with the guerrillas for approximately 15 minutes. One of the attackers, identified as Hugo de Jesus Castano, 44 years old, was killed.

This is the second guerrilla attack in Maceo in the past 2 weeks. The community of (La Susana) was seized on 29 May during an attack in which the local police inspector was almost burned alive.

'Heavy Fighting' in South

PA080355 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Text] Cali -- A total of 55 guerrillas killed and wounded and at least 50 pistols and rifles confiscated are the provisional results of heavy fighting between Colombian Army forces and rebel groups in the Cauca, Huila, and Caqueta Departments, and the Putumayo Intendency.

The 3d Brigade in Cali submitted a detailed report of the 45-day counteroffensive against rebel groups in those areas and explained that the weapons confiscated, most of which are of excellent quality, may have been smuggled into the country. The army report revealed the following confiscated war materiel: 5 machineguns [trademark indistinct], 19 FAL rifles, 3 M1 carbines, 14 .38-cal revolvers, 16 .32-cal revolvers, 4 .45-cal pistols, and a Magnum revolver. Besides, the army seized 12 grenades, 3 spears, 2 outboard motors, 4 tents, and a large quantity of ammunition. The official report was submitted by military sources, following several clashes between the Army and columns of the 19 April Movement, M-19, in southern Colombia. The report was released this afternoon by the 3d Brigade, with headquarters in this city.

According to Major General Jesus Arias, under his command the 3d Brigade has effectively cooperated with the forces stationed at Melba. The forces staged a pincer operation against the rebels grouped at various points along the central ranges between Cauca and Huila Departments, near the San Miguel River along the border with Ecuador. The latest clash, which took place early this morning, left six rebels and two soldiers dead. The military sources did not discard the possibility that clashes are now underway in the southern part of the country between the army and columns of the M-19 and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC.

OUSTED COMMUNIST LEADERS' COMMENT PUBLISHED

PA100245 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 7 Jun 83 p 2-B

[Text] Jose Cardona and Hector Herrera, Communist Party [PCC] leaders in Valle del Cauca, who along with Alberto Lopez were expelled from the party, have reiterated charges that the party's Central Committee, which has its headquarters in Bogota, is "the main promoter of guerrilla warfare in the country." Cardona, Lopez, and Herrera refrained from further explanation of the statement, which they made in a joint communique published last week.

Political observers pointed out that, considering the statements in the communique, the three leaders seem to have been drawn to the pro-Chinese MOIR (Revolutionary Independent Worker Movement), because they accuse the PCC leadership of being "subject to Soviet tutelage."

In the communique issued last week, the three leaders practically accuse the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] of being responsible for the death of Luis Angel Acevedo, an MOIR councilman from Puerto Berrio. The text of the Valle del Cauca leaders' communique follows:

The PCC regional committee, in response to the defamatory campaign initiated by the Central Committee, in which it claims that the Valle Regional Executive Committee has adopted ultrarightist tendencies by developing a group activity not in keeping with the party's best interests, wants to inform the public that:

The Valle Regional Committee, through fliers that were well received by the local news media, expressed its disagreement with the party leadership, which, under pressure from Comrades Gilberto Vieira and Jesus Villegas, notwithstanding the changes that Colombian politics are currently undergoing, has remained determined to commit the masses to the ultraleftist, adventurous tendency of permanent support for the FARC, as the armed arm of the PCC.

The Colombian public has long since recongized this commitment to and assistance in insurrectional tasks, and a break has practically occurred because the bases cannot be deceived about the party's true direction.

If the party's position is one of support for armed struggle, we cannot continue to hide this from our comrades, because it would be a deception that in the end would bring about the failure of many years of revolutionary struggle.

In Colombia, we cannot continue to be bound to outdated schemes, and it is our opinion that we should enter the democratic game in order to measure our own capacity and scope.

We cannot continue to destroy the political work advanced by our comrades in long years of political struggle, simply because the party is being managed with revolutionary near-sightedness.

Proof of the PCC's blindness is the treacherous attack that is being made on Comrade Marcelo Torres for the crime of not agreeing with the party leadership, which is still subject to Soviet tutelage, and for accusing the arm that is supported and financed by the Central Committee, of murdering MOIR comrade Luis Angel Acevedo in Puerto Berrio. Those of us who knew Acevedo knew of his differences with the FARC and his rejection of the policy of killing peasants, which is now widespread in central Magdalena. It is on these procedures that we do not agree with those who have always led the PCC.

It is assumed that with our separation from the party and the formation of a provisional committee, the problem is solved. This is not so. Even though our position has been said to be rightist in nature, it was never heard at the session, it was never analyzed critically. It was simply rejected, despite the fact that it was known to carry the message and support of the Valle del Cauca comrades, before whom it had been clearly stated.

We have been given a 30-day time limit to present our critical analysis. In honor of unity we will present it, sustaining our points of view, but it is also our opportunity to demand that these statements and criteria be likewise exposed to the rank and file, so that they, within the democratic framework they have established within the party, can judge and come to conclusions.

In view of the extensive media coverage of our alleged expulsion for having presented clear positions, the country is aware of our dilemma of being true to our position as Colombian communists or joining in defense of supporting armed groups that from day to day spill rivers of our own peasants' blood. We reiterate our faith in the revolutionary political struggle, in response to what the party itself has called the democratic opening. It is a path that is open in the current political situation, and the party should continue to study it carefully, as was decided at the joint session.

Finally, it was stated at the joint session that among other things, the causes of our political isolation were undemocratic and authoritatian methods, a falsehood which can only be responded to by the comrades of the regional sections, who struggle arm in arm with us for a strong party, sure of taking power by political means, when the occasion should arise.

Fraternally,

Jose Cardona, Hector Herrera, Alberto Lopez.

PEACE COMMISSION PRESIDENT'S RESIGNATION VIEWED

PA081725 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 Jun 83

["Politics Without Fear" feature by Edgar Artunduaga]

[Text] Undoubtedly, the country is more concerned than it appears to be over the basic motives that led to the resignation of Otto Morales Benitez, president of the Peace Commission. No one has explained these motives, nor do I intend to, because only Morales and President Belisario Betancur can do that. However, my phrase is a faithful reflection of the national uneasiness. Morales Benitez is neither an incompetent nor dumb, and his assertions should not fall in empty space or be ignored. The country must be addressed clearly, and it is waiting for this to be done, according to Ramiro de la Espriella [EL ESPECTADOR columunist]. According to an editorial in the newspaper EL ESPECTADOR, Dr Morales Benitez did the country a great service as president of the Peace Commission, and we believe with him that he will serve Colombia again by withdrawing.

According to [former foreign minister] Alfredo Vasquez Carrizosa, at the end of January this year the president of the Peace Commission and three other members made a secret trip to a secluded spot in the mountains of Huila Department. The rest of the commission members learned from the papers that everything was over. Vasquez Carrizosa said that truce agreements with the armed groups are no longer sought. The current winds run contrary to those at the time when the peacemaker ascended the Andean summits. The January feat did not have the expected epilogue. We were left at the beginning of a movie, even if the disconcerted public could guess the plot.

EL ESPECTADOR says that with the resignation of Morales, who did some highly meritorious work despite the fact that most of his recommendations, unfortunately, did not find fertile ground, the amnesty's already (?weak) structure is practically on its last legs. Ignacio Arizmendiz considers Morales' letter of resignation to the Peace Commission as a subtle censure of President Betancur. Should we bet on this? Betancur says the Peace Commission will continue operating.

Gabriel Garcia Marquez sees the resignation of Morales as a loss to the country, and one taxidriver here says there's more to this than meets the eye.

HAVANA REPORTS PROCEEDINGS AGAINST U.S. PILOT

PA091645 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Text] The U.S. Eastern Airlines pilot who was under arrest for 8 hours on 29 May [as heard] for taking pictures of Peruvian Air Force facilities has been placed at the disposal of a Peruvian Air Force court martial. Clifford Mawer, a veteran of World War II, was arrested at Jorge Chavez International Airport when he was caught taking pictures of Peruvian fighter planes.

LABOR MINISTER GRADOS ADDRESSES ILO MEETING

PY092248 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] On addressing the 69th ILO conference in Geneva, Labor Minister Alfonso Grados Bertolini pointed to the detrimental effects of unemployment. Grados Bertolini said that countries like Peru, which chose to live under a democracy, cannot (?throttle) the social unrest stemming from the world recession. Grados Bertolini said that this is what prompted us to call for a social agreement in an effort to gain solidarity to cope with the crisis. However, the measure is encountering obstacles and there have been no signs of international solidarity.

The Peruvian labor minister said that developing countries find it more difficult to soften the impact of cutback policies because they lack the social security mechanisms that developing countries have. He said that for this reason developing countries need help to curb inflation, adding that humanity cannot persist without solidarity.

Grados Bertolini then referred to the Peruvian situation by explaining the serious problems caused not only by the international economic crisis but also by the serious damage caused [words indistinct] by the floods and the droughts in the northern and the southern parts of the country respectively.

The Peruvian people are well aware of the importance of solidarity because, in keeping with our genuine cultural tradition, solidarity is the main basis of the efforts that we are currently making to reconstruct the destroyed infrastructure and the affected basic production apparatus. Grados Bertolini concluded his speech by calling for a true spirit of the Geneva conference so that interdependence will not be another euphemistic word but an instrument to defeat egotism in the search for true solidarity.

HAVANA CITES OPPOSITION LEADERS ON PRICE HIKES

PA092019 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Text] The leaders of the two main opposition political organizations in Peru criticized recent price hikes and said that this measure contributes to destabilizing the Peruvian constitutional government. Alfonso Barrantes Lingan, president of the United Leftist Coalition, said that the increases in prices reflects Finance Minister Carlos Rodriguez Pastor's indifference toward the people's dramatic situation. Alan Garcia, secretary general of APRA [american Revolutionary Popular Alliance], said that the Peruvian Govenment's economic policy is endangering the democratic process in that country.

PDC REJECTS BILL MODIFYING ELECTORAL SYSTEM

PY081538 Lima EL OBSERVADOR in Spanish 28 May 83 p 5

[Excerpts] Yesterday, the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] termed unconstitutional the draft bill amending the system to elect councilmen that was approved by the senate. The bill was submitted by Senator Javier Alva Orlandini. According to the bill, the list that obtains a relative majority of votes will fill half plus one of the positions of councilmen within each municipal council. The PDC says that the bill is unconstitutional because Article 65 of the Constitution of 1979 states that "in the straight party system there shall be proportional representation."

The PDC also states that under the proportional representation system positions are filled in keeping with the percentage of votes obtained by each list. The purpose of this system is to have the elected council reflect as much as possible the leanings of the electorate. The PDC adds that the bill is undemocratic because it increases the representation of the list that wins with a relative majority by granting it half plus one of the positions. The PDC adds that "the new system distorts the true political representation of the electorate because the municipal councils will not fully reflect the political leanings of the electorate. For this reason, the new system curtails democratic pluralism and the political participation of the people established in the Constitution."

In view of the above, the PDC asks that the Chamber of Deputies withhold the bill and maintain the electoral system based on proportional representation in order to guarantee political pluralism, which is the essence of a democratic society.

DEPUTY ANNOUNCES CREATION OF POLITICAL GROUP

PY092253 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Independent Deputy (Tito Gurmana) has announced the creation of a new political group named 7 June National Civic Movement [Movimiento Civico Nacional 7 de Junio]. The deputy made the announcement from Arica. He emphasized the example of sacrifice and dedication to Peru shown by hero Bolognesi who proved his love for the fatherland with heroism and honesty. In a telex sent to Lima, Deputy (Gurmana) says that this movement has been born at a time of worsening of the national crisis due to lack of faith and a feeling of frustration affecting the republic.

INTERIOR MINISTER ON TERRORISM, DRUG TRAFFICKING

PY100003 Lima OIGA in Spanish 30 May 83 pp 17-19

[Interview granted by Interior Minister Luis Percovich at his residence to Uri Ben Schmuel on 26 May 1983]

[Excerpts] [Question] After the incident that took place at the 42d police station in Lima, many wonder how terrorism will be eradicated if the intelligence service was unable to detect what was being organized within the police forces.

[Answer] In the first place, it must be pointed out that although the police force's intelligence service is not 100 percent efficient, it is currently fulfilling its duty quite satisfactorily. One must not forget that the police force's intelligence service was deliberately dissolved during the 70's. We were aware of the attitude that low-ranking personnel of the Civil Guard would adopt. We had been informed about this by the police force's and the national intelligence services since it had been planned several weeks ago.

[Question] Changing to the subject of terrorism. During the past few days the president and you have made statements regarding the withdrawal of the armed forces from Ayacucho. Many think these statements have been contradictory. What could you say about this?

[Answer] I have discussed the issue at great length with the president of the republic and the joint command of the armed forces in order to determine the strategy to be followed in the future in this emergency zone. In keeping with the studies carried out and the development of operations in the central Sierra, it has been determined that the reestablishment of police stations in areas from where this service has been withdrawn and the establishment of new posts in strategic areas are our priority issues. The new posts and those to be reestablished will have an adequate number of policemen duly equiped with arms, transport and communications systems. At the same time as the police stations are reestablished or established in strategic areas, the specialized "Sinchis" [special antiguerrilla unit] will gradually withdraw so that the armed forces can undertake the task of repressing subversion directly in the areas where it is necessary. Once there is peace and the situation returns to normal in the central Sierra, the armed forces will also withdraw gradually. This means that two parallel actions will be carried out: the establishment and reestablishment of police stations with the gradual withdrawal of the "Sinchis;" and antisubversive operations by the armed forces until the situation allows them to withdraw gradually. Therefore, there have been no contradictions in the statements by President Belaunde and me. Apparently the statements were not quite clear, and when the president referred to the "eventual withdrawal" of the armed forces it was interpreted that they would withdraw immediately.

[Question] Why will the "Sinchis" withdraw?

[Answer] Because we believe that Ayacucho should have a permanent police force formed by men previously appointed to specific stations and who will remain there for 1 or 2 years. The "Sinchis" were stationed temporarily and are subject to constant rotations. Operational plans recommend that they withdraw.

[Question] Half jokingly, it has been stated that the interior minister should not be allowed to publicly state that terrorism is under control because every time he does so the Shining Path seems determined to prove the contrary. This has already happened to previous interior ministers, and also to you when you referred to the normalization in Ayacucho a few days before members of the Shining Path attacked the 9th Civil Guard precinct right in the middle of Huamanga city.

[Answer] My statements were distorted. The journalists asked me about the situation in Ayacucho when I left a meeting held at the Health Ministry. My answer was that the situation was gradually returning to normal because there were people at work repairing the means of communications, there was more activity in the trade field, etc. One journalist asked me whether this meant that the Shining Path was pulling out. I answered that they were not pulling out, just retreating from the areas where the situation is returning to normal. That is what I said.

The intelligence service had already warned us about the events which eventually took place in Ayacucho during the week in which the Shining Path celebrated the 3d anniversary. We were aware that some terrorist attacks were going to take place and took some precautionary measures in many areas. Proof of this is that many clashes took place during those days between the terrorists and security forces that were on their way to the areas they had been previously allocated by the political-military command.

The attack on the Civil Guard 9th precinct was a well organized commando operation that sought to create a spectacular situation that would have an impact at a national and international level. At the senate defense committee I clearly stated that the Shining Path is not pulling out, quite the contrary, and that precautionary measures should be taken.

[Question] Many believe that in the attempt to eradicate terrorism the government focuses its attention on repression and neglects the social aspect. Could you give us your opinion on this?

[Answer] The Ayacucho problem should be tackled not only with repressive actions but also with profound social action. The intensity of this social action is not at the desired level, due to the lack of security in some cases, in areas where there are still terrorists. But I agree that measures aimed at invigorating the department's economy, creating jobs and improving the people's standard of living should be taken in addition to police and military actions.

[Question] Let us refer to drug trafficking now. Miguel Cavero Egusquiza, attorney general of the nation, told OIGA that there is a chance that the drug trafficking sector may deeply infiltrate congress through the 1985 elections. What do you think about this?

[Answer] Drug trafficking is causing concern. According to Interior Ministry reports, Peru produces 28,000 tons of coca per year which is capable of producing 280,000 kg of cocaine base paste. In the last few years we have only been able to confiscate 1 percent of the total clandestine production of cocaine base paste and cocaine hydrochloride. Therefore, it is quite obvious that illegal drug trafficking, because of its magnitude, has economic consequences as well as consequences of other natures and one cannot disregard the threat mentioned by the attorney general. The political parties must, naturally, take the necessary precautions to appoint their candidates adequately.

CIVIL DEFENSE REPORTS ON FLOOD, DROUGHT DAMAGE

PY092251 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] The damage caused by the heavy rains in the north and the drought in the south amount to about 770 billion soles. The national civil defense has reported that the rains in the north have caused damage worth 500 billion soles and the drought in the south 200 billion soles. The Civil Defense has also reported that 99 percent of the 285 million soles donation in cash were used for the purchase of medicine and food. It also reported that the disaster areas have so far received 2 and 1/2 million tons of food, clothing, and medicine.

FRANCE AIDS TELEVISION NETWORK EXPANSION

PY081525 Paris AFP in Spanish 0348 GMT 4 Jun 83

[Text] Lima, 3 Jun (AFP) -- An expanded financial and technical cooperation agreement between France and Peru will make it possible to connect 15 border locations to the state educational and cultural television system, Javier Alva, head of the national social communication system, announced today. Under the original agreement, France contributed Fr 112 million for the installation of 40 satellite television receiving stations as part of a network to connect all provincial capitals to the state educational and cultural television system. The original agreement has now been expanded to Fr 133 million and thus it will permit the installation television and radio land stations in 15 selected locations along the country's borders. Alva pointed out that the locations to be chosen lie in remote regions where communication with the rest of the country are difficult. A French franc is approximately equivalent to $1.80.

BUDGET DIRECTOR ON CUTS IN 1984 BUDGET

PA091923 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1827 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Text] Caracas, 8 Jun (LATIN-REUTER) -- Venezuela, whose petroleum revenues have been reduced due to the drop in prices, plans to make an approximately 10-percent cut in its 1984 budget, which would make it amount to $16.2 billion, Budget Director Aurelio Useche said at a congressional hearing today. The 1984 budget, for which Venezuela's creditor banks and the IMF have urged substantial reductions, will be presented to Congress on 1 July.

Useche said that the current expenses will be maintained at approximately $9 billion compared to this year's $10 billion. He added that the debt figures depend on the current refinancing discussions being held with the creditor banks in New York. Acting Finance Minister Angel Buenano said today that the negotiations are being held normally, but that Venezuela will extend the 90-day freeze in the foreign debt payments if agreement is not reached on the new terms before 30 June. Approximately $16.3 billion of the Venezuelan foreign debt is due in 1983 and 1984. After failing to achieve approval of the 1983 budget in Congress last year, a $17.9-billion budget was finally approved in March. This budget represents a 6-percent drop compared to 1982 expenditures.

RANGEL CRITICIZES CALDERA, LUSINCHI CANDIDACIES

PA080406 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0911 GMT 7 Jun 83

[By Miguel Gil]

[Text] Caracas, 7 Jun (EFE) -- Jose Vicente Rangel, the Socialist candidate for president, noted that the electoral victory of either Rafael Caldera, the Social Christian candidate, or Jaime Lusinchi, the Social Democratic candidate, will prepare the ground for a coup d'etat in this country. In a statement to EFE, Rangel referred to the objectives of his leftwing candidacy. He described himself as an authentic socialist, who believes in democracy, but who does not rule out the possibility of armed struggle as a means of achieving it. Rangel is backed by several leftwing organizations including the Communist Party of Venezuela (PCV), the People's Electoral Movement (MEP), and a faction of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR). In regard to the support of Venezuelan Communists, he stressed that it is not a limiting factor, but a factor of unity as was the case in France with the candidacy of Francois Mitterrand or in Boliva with Hernan Siles Zuazo. Rangel described the current economic situation as serious and he blamed this directly on the Democratic Action and COPEI parties, which have taken turns in power over a 25-year period. Addressing the issue of corruption, he stated that this is currently Venezuela's worst evil, coupled with its huge $30 billion public debt.

Jose Vicente Rangel is in third place, behind the Democratic Action and COPEI candidates, according to public polls. He said that with a leftwing victory in the Venezuelan elections, there will be less chance of a coup d'etat than in the case of victory by either Jaime Lusinchi or Rafael Caldera. Rangel criticized the parties led by these men, which will spend huge sums during the electoral campaign; around $400 million, according to his estimates. When asked to discuss Central America, he said that this is the most explosive and dangerous area in the world and he blamed the American Administration for the climate of war that prevails in Nicaragua and El Salvador. Rangel endorsed the Contadora Group's steps toward peace and predicted direct U.S. military intervention in the near future in view of the current situation in Central America. Jose Vicente Rangel expressed his interest in becoming the sole leftwing candidate and said that if opinion polls favor Teodora Petkoff, the other socialist candidate, he will give up his presidential aspirations, provided an agreement is reached in advance.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES DOMINICAN FOREIGN MINISTER

PA092201 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 7 Jun 83 p 19

[Text] Jose Vega Imbert, secretary of state for foreign relations of the Dominican Republic, was received in a special audience yesterday by President Ricardo de la Espriella. Vega Imbert arrived here from Colombia, where he participated in activities to mark the 450th anniversary of the founding of Cartagena.

Vice President Jorge Illueca and Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado were present at the meeting. Other members of the Dominican party were Eladio Knepping Victor and Guillermo Franco, the Dominican ambassadors to the United Nations and the OAS.

HAVANA CITES AMADO ON STONE'S C.A. TOUR

PA091813 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Text] Panama's Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado has said in Panama City that Richard Stone, the U.S. special envoy to Latin America, is not bringing a peace proposal to be presented during his tour of 10 countries in the region.

He said that during his visit Stone and Panamanian authorities analyzed issues that helped him gather information concerning the situation in the area. Stone also met with Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella.

Before starting his Latin American tour, Washington's special envoy noted that the visit's objectives are to learn more about the problems in the area and to help find solutions.

DE LA ESPRIELLA LETTER TO GENERAL PAREDES

PA081530 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Jun 83

[Letter from President Ricardo de la Espriella to General Ruben Dario Paredes, National Guard commander in chief; no date given]

[Text] Brigadier General Ruben Dario Paredes, National Guard Commander in Chief,

Panama City

Dear General Paredes:

I have received your attentive letter dated 27 May 1983 in which you announce your irrevocable decision to make effective your retirement from the National Guard, according to the military roll regulation.

I agree with what you have said about the country experiencing a supreme moment in the process of democratic institutionalization. As a matter of fact, on 20 May, when the constitutional reforms freely approved by a large majority of the Panamanian people in the referendum of 24 April went into effect, a new stage in the life of the republic began, which compels us all to work to perfect the process of democratization conceived and initiated by Brigadier General Omar Torrijos, may he rest in peace.

The government I preside over is committed to guaranteeing an electoral process which should be an example of honesty and purity, so that the state's authorities will proclaim as governors of the nation the citizens who have managed to obtain the most sympathy and trust and votes freely issued and honestly counted.

In this democratic campaign, the country expects to continue depending on the support of the National Guard as an institution established to guarantee the freedom of citizens, public defense, and security -- a support you realized the need to share and which we are certain the institution will continue.

Men are transitory in public posts. The country and its institutions are what really matter, and they should be permanent. The democratic concept of society and of the modern state is based on the principle that the government and power are not to be exercised by men, but by institutions. In this respect, I share your opinion that we must feel satisfied when we have to retire from a public office which we have held for a time, if in complying with and excercising our duties, we have acted -- as in your case -- with responsibility, loyalty, and exemplary conduct.

On your retirement, I wish to reiterate my friendship, my personal appreciation, and my belief that wherever you carry out your future activities you will be committed to democracy and to the desire of every Panamanian to live and practice it.

Yours truly,

Ricardo de la Espriella Toral, president of the Republic of Panama.

LA PRENSA PERSONNEL ATTACKED BY DEMONSTRATORS

PA092016 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 9 Jun 83 p 1

[By Jose Quintero de Leon, Migdalia Fuentes, Vladimir Sandoval, and Jose Montero]

[Excerpts] For the third time since its foundation, at around 1830 yesterday a mob of demonstrators attacked this newspaper's personnel, because the paper denounced the diverting of public funds for political propaganda in favor of the progovernment candidate.

The demonstrators were led by Dr Joaquin Villar Garcia, a member of the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party], and Alfonso Montoya, leader of the PALA [Labor Party] in San Miquelito. Through loudspeakers, the group said they were residents of Alcaldediaz-Las Cumbres, and that they were acting in defense of the medical aid tour that General Ruben Dario Paredes provides for their corregimiento through the sponsorship of the Bayano cement state enterprise, the COFINA [National Finance Corporation], and the National Guard.

During the attack, typesetter Carlos Sanchez was brutally beaten and had to be taken to the hospital. Miss Maruquel Arosemena, chief of human resources; Rodrigo Prado, circulation chief; and Martin Perez, rotary press technician, suffered minor bruises.

The almost 200 demonstrators arrived aboard four buses of SICOTRAC [Union of Public Transportation Drivers]. One hour after the incident, Government and Justice Minister Justo Fidel Palacios arrived at the newspaper and, on behalf of the Panamanian president, deplored the events and guaranteed that those responsible would be investigated.

A telephone call from Colonel Roberto Diaz Herrera was also received. On behalf of Gen Ruben Dario Paredes, he lamented the events and said that they will be investigated immediately by the assistant prosecutor and the DENI [National Department of Investigation] director.

Those two officials arrived at LA PRENSA shortly afterward to gather information from eyewitnesses and obtain photographs and other evidence. The National Guard also offered to guard the LA PRENSA building.

National Guard Communique

PA092200 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 9 Jun 83 p 1

[Late news item: "National Guard Communique"]

[Text] Last night a large group of citizens stepped out of buses in front of LA PRENSA and, claiming various reasons for apparent differences with this newspaper, proceeded to paint the building and yell slogans. According to newspaper administrator Francisco Arias, they intimidated personnel on duty and damaged one of the newspaper's asemblers.

Following instructions from General Ruben Dario Paredes, commander in chief of the National Guard, Colonel Roberto Diaz Herrera contacted Arias, the newspaper's administrator. Among other things, Arias informed Col Diaz Herrera that on Wednesday, 8 June, the newspaper had received several threatening calls, but had paid no attention to them.

The National Guard immediately requested the presence of representatives from the attorney general's office and the National Department of Investigation, and gave them the special assignment of conducting a prompt, broad, and effective investigation to pinpoint without any doubts the responsible parties. The investigators have been asked to act firmly, diligently, and freely, in order that the incident may be totally clarified.

"All for the Fatherland"

Signed: Major Edgardo Lopez Grimaldo, National Guard public relations director.

CONATO STAGES DEMONSTRATION, THREATENS STRIKE

PA081935 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 7 Jun 83 pp A-1, A-10

[Excerpts] The National Council of Organized Workers (CONATO) staged a demonstration yesterday afternoon and threatened to declare a nationwide strike on 21 and 22 June if the government does not turn over the second portion of the 13th month payment to workers.

This demand was made in speeches delivered by CONATO leaders at Santa Ana Plaza where the march, begun by some 3,000 workers at Porras Plaza, ended. Yesterday's demonstration was headed by union leader of the National Trade Union of Shoe Industry Workers [Sindicato Nacional de Trabajadores del Calzado], the Confederation of Workers of the Republic of Panama, the Union of Workers of the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification [Sindicato de Trabajadores del Instituto de Recoursos Hidraulicos y Electrificacion -- SITIRHE], and the National Trade Union of Panamanian Bank Employees, among others.

Signs with messages concerning the labor movement, such as "we don't want reforms or alms, we demand respect," were seen during the peaceful demonstration.

The Single National Union of Construction and Related Workers is requesting the return of this second portion of the 13th month payment so that it can be used as capital for the creation of the Workers' Bank.

However, the Workers' Socialist Party [PST], which actively participated in the march, also called for the return of this second portion to the workers.

The PST demanded that "from now on, the government turn over this portion of the 13th month directly to the workers every year." It also agreed that a plan should be nogotiated to return the portions for the years 1972 through 1982. The workers were asked to remain on alert and watch over debate on the bill for the return of the second portion of the 13th month payment. This debate is to begin 15 June.

PDC CHAIRMAN ARIAS CALDERON INTERVIEWED

PA091521 Panama City Radio Exitosa in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Jun 83

["With Lucho on Existosa" Program: Luis Estribi interview with Ricardo Arias Calderon, president of the Christian Democratic Party (PDC); place not given -- live]

[Excerpts] [Estribi] Among the questions I will ask you tonight, one of the most important will no doubt be regarding how true it is that your visit to Washington in the company of Guilleromo Cochez, the party's vice president, had the specific purpose of torpedoing the visit of General Paredes to that capital; but we will leave that for the last part of the interview.

[Arias Calderon] First, I would like to talk a little about our trip to Caracas. As you know, our tour included Caracas, Rome, and finally Washington. You know well, because you have lived in Venezuela, about Venezuela's dynamic activity in the Caribbean and Central American areas. Its governments, both of Democratic Action and COPEI, have been most active in the Caribbean and Central American areas. The reason for our trip was to meet with leaders of both sectors. The democrats of Central America and Panama are quite concerned about one of the weakest points in our efforts to democratize Central America and Panama peacefully, and that is that some sectors of the Socialist International, to which the Venezuelan Democratic Action Party belongs, in their activities in this area have chosen to make contact with the most radical sectors, the Marxist-Leninists, rather than seek points of concurrence with the centrist democratic sectors. In Caracas we tried to show the leaders of both sectors our concern that in the Central American area there should be no rivalry between these two groups which share democratic foundations.

[Estribi] Do you believe that to some extent the political incoherence in our country could be responsible for a lack of ideological definition of a government that sways between the left, center, and right without adopting an attitude to show the people where the government is actually heading? I have an ACAN-EFE item reporting that the Soviet ship "Nadezhda Krupskaya" loaded with weapons, is going to cross the canal, that it is coming from Limon on its way to Corinto. The vessel is carrying, among other war materiel, two helicopter gunships. How can this affect Panama?

[Arias Calderon] I believe that one of the most important areas for Panama, where a clear definition is required, is the international area. The position of the Panamanian Government in these past 15 years has been the position of the most radical sectors of the Socialist International, with which this government has tried to come in contact, trying to find alliances with the radical and extremist sectors of Marxist-Leninist leanings. That was why they helped the Sandinists, since everybody knew that the Sandinist leadership was Marxist-Leninist. That was why they tried to continue helping the FDR of El Salvador, and particulary the FMLN of El Salvador, which is the Marxist-Leninist guerrilla sector. So there has been a leaning in that direction within the government, and if it has eased up in the past months, it has not changed basically. What we tried to do with both political groups in Venezuela was to determine how it could be possible for those sectors, through talks between themselves, to help achieve a great democratic center for the purpose of establishing real democracy in each one of the Central American nations as a basic condition for peace and development.

[Estribi] Now for the basic question tonight. What did your trip to Caracas, Rome, and Washington have to do with the activities of Gen Ruben Dario Paredes, who was invited by the Pentagon to visit the U.S. capital?

[Arias Calderon] I believe that, in the question of Washington, there are two things that must be cleared up. What was I doing in Washington, accompanied by the party's vice president, Guillermo Cochez? The answer is simple. Every so often we visit Washington to learn more about U.S. policy, which has so much influence in our area, and this is a reality all Panamanians know. Now the only way to know whether that policy will benefit or harm our country is to learn about it, and the policy of a country like the United States cannot be learned about merely by reading the papers. One must actually know some of the personalities involved in such a policy, particularly because there are verious elements involved in the definition of U.S. policy.

It was also an informative visit, and an opportunity to express the points of view of Panama's democratic opposition sectors. It is important that the vision others have of Panama not be limited to the picture of those who have run the country for 15 years, and who have been characterized as interrupting Panamanian democracy and leading the country toward the current crisis. It is important that the viewpoints of the Panamanian democratic opposition sectors regarding the Panamanian and Central American reality be known outside of Panama, in Caracas, Rome, and Washington. This is the purpose of my visits, and I will continue with this practice with great responsibility, because I care for my country.

Now, why was there so much fuss about it here? To be more specific, why did the government media proceed to insult Cochez and me for several days just because we were in Washington? I think that in order to understand the reason for all this fuss, one must realize that Gen Paredes' visit resulted in confusion of a sort because of what Gen Paredes expected to find and what he actually found. It is clear -- and one has only to listen carefully to Gen Paredes' speech at Chiriqui bridge to realize this -- that he expected a visit with political connotations.

That is why when he defined the objectives of his visit he said he would include the subject of the School of the Americas at Fort Gulick, that he would discuss the wage scales in the former canal zone, that he would talk about the railroad and its financial problems. Anyone listening could see that his agenda was not strictly on military matters, but that it was an agenda that went from military topics to social-economic matters, and therefore to the political field.

In addition, those of us who have followed Panamanian politics carefully in the past few months know -- from the information we can gather on a personal basis -- that in talks that Gen Paredes has had with traditional sectors linked with the sugar industry, he implied that he could discuss the problem of the Panamanian sugar quota during his visit in the United States. In this way he tried to encourage these sectors to support him.

In other words, if we analyze Gen Paredes' speech in Chiriqui on one hand, and the political context of his visit on the other, one can realize that he expected to cover not only military matters during his visit, but also social-economic matters of political significance. This is why he was accompanied by team of television reporters and journalists, in order to give a political image to his visit in the Panamanian media. I think that any keen analyst can see that there were political expectations in his visit. What did he find, though? He found that his visit had been programmed as a strictly military event. During the time of his official visit -- before returning to the Panamanian Embassy, which is Panamanian territory -- his activities were strictly military. His visit was not mentioned in THE WASHINGTON POST, THE NEW YORK TIMES, THE WASHINGTON TIMES, or Washington's television. In other words, his visit was of a technical and professional nature. From the reports we have heard in Panama, we see that he was not received by the U.S. secretary of defense, who is the political figure in the military field; instead he was received by generals, which is the proper procedure, according to his rank.

Consequently, as a result of the difference between what Gen Paredes and his group had expected and what really happened, there was confusion and frustration. Under these circumstances, they had to find a scapegoat, they had to find someone whom they could blame for their frustration, and this someone turned out to be Guillermo Cochez and me.

'COMMITTEE FOR DEMOCRACY' STATES PRINCIPLES

PA081537 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 23 May 83 p B-9

[Summary] The Committee for Democracy in Panama, Nicaragua, and Central America [Comite pro Democracia en Panama, Nicaragua 6 Centro America -- CODEPANICE] has issued its declaration of principles and objectives, which calls for cooperation to disseminate information on democracy and Central America and to help achieve democracy in Nicaragua; reinforcing and consolidating democracy in Panama and Central America; supporting the withdrawal of foreign advisers; striving for the establishment of civilian governments in Panama and Central America; helping establish an emergency economic plan for the area; and having national and international organizations repudiate Marxism-Leninism in the area.

COSTA RICA

SOVIET SHIP INSPECTED, ALLOWED TO DEPART

PA090446 Paris AFP in Spanish 0254 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Text] San Jose, 7 Jun (AFP) -- Authorities of the port of Limon, on Costa Rica's Atlantic side, inspected the Soviet ship "Nadezhda Krupskaya," for 2 hours and found no irregularities. Port Captain Mario Urbina told AFP that he boarded the Soviet ship with a court order to inspect its hold at the request of Costa Rican public security officers.

Urbina reported finding two big crates "that presumably contain two helicopters," and eight other crates, the contents of which could not be determined because the law does not allow the crates to be opened since "the ship is in transit." Urbina added that they found other things, including insecticides and iron ingots.

He said that the ship set sail from Leningrad and made stops at the ports of Hamburg (FRG), Rotterdam (the Netherlands), and Santo Tomas (Guatemala) before it arrived at Limon today. Urbina said the ship's next port of call is Cristobal, in Panama, where some products will be unloaded. It will then transit the canal and continue toward Corinto, on Nicaragua's Pacific coast.

Finally, Urbina pointed out that he signed the departure order himself, allowing the "Nadezhda Krupskaya" to leave early on (?Friday) morning for Panama.

GOVERNMENT SOLICITS NETHERLANDS ECONOMIC AID

PM091201 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 27 May 83 p 3

[Frans Kok dispatch: "Costa Rica Expects More Political and Economic Support from the Netherlands"]

[Text] San Jose, 27 May -- Costa Rica expects more political and economic support from the Netherlands, among others, to prevent armed conflict from spilling over into the country from Nicaragua.

Costa Rican President Luis Monge yesterday asked Netherlands Foreign Minister van den Broek to make forceful pleas to the left-wing Nicaraguan junta that they respect Costa Rica's sovereignty. Monge said yesterday that he was "very afraid" of a spread of the fighting to his "traditionally peaceful country."

The Costa Rican president was also critical that the countries in the region in which fighting is going on are at the center of attention and also receive a great deal of aid, while a country like Costa Rica, with an ancient democratic tradition, is left to solve its major economic problems almost alone.

Van den Broek held a half-day's talks in Costa Rica yesterday, before going on to Nicaragua and El Salvador. Prime Minister Lubbers is not with him on the trip to Central America. He will remain on the Netherlands Antilles until Saturday [28 May]. Minister van den Broek has been finding out about the role Costa Rica is playing in the regional peace initiative and about the border conflicts which have recently upset relations between Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

Van den Broek received from his Costa Rican counterpart Ekhart Peters a list of development projects in which the Netherlands would be able to offer technical or financial aid. The projects would cost a total of $5 million. Van den Broek promised to look further at the possibility of Netherlands aid once he has returned home; his initial reaction to the Costa Rican request was not dismissive.

Peters said that the fact that in the last 3 years the Netherlands has given 150 million guilders' worth of development aid to Nicaragua did not cause him any problems. He said it would not be good to deny the Nicaraguan people this aid because the left-wing Sandinist junta has strongly directed the revolution in a communist direction. However, the aid should not be given in the form of credits, as France did recently, after which Nicaragua used the money to buy arms, Peters said.

Costa Rica is the only country in Central and South America which has had democracy for the last 100 years. The relatively prosperous country is also the only one without an army. This principle was included in the Constitution in 1949. Costa Rica does have a police force of 4,000 men. However, they have no offensive weapons, nor do they have any means of discovering infiltrators at the borders.

Exhart said that the police force would be strengthened with helicopters and modern communications equipment. He added that, in his opinion, Nicaragua has built up an unacceptably large Army which is acquiring an increasingly offensive character. He feared that in the future this fighting force could be used against Costa Rica.

Ekhart was disappointed at the course of the Sandinist revolution in neighboring Nicaragua. Costa Rican President Monge made similar statements to Minister van den Broek. According to Costa Rica, nothing has come of the original promises of a pluralist society, free press, and free elections.

Elections to take place in 1985 have been announced, but according to Ekhart, the left-wing junta has already stated several times that the government power of the junta can under no circumstances be at issue in the election.

TOWNS PROTEST ELECTRICITY RATES, BLOCK ROADS

PA091623 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Excerpts] This morning more communities joined the people's protests over the high electricity rates. Despite the Government Council's announcement yesterday that it would intervene in this conflict, the residents of (San Juan De Tibas), Cinco Esquinas, (?Copey) and (Concepcion de Tres Rios) rebelled today. With these new neighborhoods on strike, a total of about 15 communities have blocked roads.

The reaction in the various communities to protest the high cost of electrical service is now unstoppable. Santa Ana has also blocked its road. Only Turrialba has lifted the blockade because the local committee will hold negotiations with the executive branch today. At 1400 today the government will receive a large commission made up of communal representatives from various parts of the country to discuss the high electricity rates.

A few minutes ago the road to Aserri was blocked, and no vehicle can leave or enter there. The road is also being blocked in (San Antonio de Desamparados), as is the road (?to) Desamparados near the bridge over the Tiribi River. This means that vehicles will not be able to circulate through there either. With these roadblocks, a ring has practically been closed around the outskirts [of San Jose].

The various committees are demanding not only that service be reestablished, as already ordered yesterday by the Government Council, but also a definitive agreement and a reduction of electricity rates. The residents of (Concepcion de Alajuelita) also blocked the road a few minutes ago.

Agreement Reached; Roadblocks Lifted

PA100423 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] The agreement announced by the government today reducing electricity rates to the level of December 1982 put an end to the roadblocks throughout the country. The government's decision was submitted to the leaders of the various strike committees. A document will be signed later establishing a number of measures on the application of such reductions.

The roadblocks were lifted at 1400 once the government and the strike committees' representatives signed the agreement. The measures adopted by the government to satisfy the demands of the various communities include the suspension of service cuts, prompt renewal of services, and the adjustment of current consumers' bills. These adjustments will be made on a monthly basis for a period of 1 year and will be reflected in the consumers' bills.

The rates to go into effect in May under the government decision will be equal to those in effect on December 1982. This means that the price of the kilowatt-(?D) will be approximately 3 colones until a fixed period is established. The government, however, rejected maintaining the rates for a period of 2 years, as requested by the struggle committees' leaders.

As part of the measures agreed to by the government, commercial establishments, particularly small stores and industry, will have preferential rates. In the case of small stores, there will be a special rate up to 1,000 kw-hour and for small industry up to 1,500 kw-hour.

To keep better control of lower-scale consumption, the Costa Rican Electricity Institute, ICE, the National Power and Light Company, and the other entities in charge of providing electrical services will establish a meter-reading card system. This card will be held by the consumer and each time a consumption reading is made, it will be in the presence of a neighboring witness. This will avoid discrepancies between actual consumption and the charges on the bills.

All public welfare institutions will be charged half-rate. These include old people's homes, nutritional centers, hospitals, and schools. All these measures will go into effect in May, which means that future bills will include the reductions, according to the consumer's established category.

Application of the measures reducing the electricity rates will represent a drop of some 810 million colones in the incomes of the institutions entrusted with providing these services, and will have a direct effect on the electricity production system's development programs, particularly in the construction of hydroelectric plants. These programs, however, will be financed with a loan from Mexico payable in 20 years, plus 300 million colones obtainable from internal resources.

EL SALVADOR

FOREIGN MINISTER ON WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. ADVISERS

PA092138 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 9 Jun 83 pp 5, 13

[Excerpt] Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena referred to the possible withdrawal of U.S. military advisers from our country when he was interviewed by the press in Cartagena, Colombia.

According to EL UNIVERSAL, the foreign minister said the government is studying the possibility of withdrawing the advisers, if it is proved that the initiative will represent a solution to the crisis which presently prevails in Central America. Chavez Mena arrived from Panama, where he had met with the other Central American foreign ministers and the Contadora Group, to analyze the situation in the region and seek viable solutions to achieve peace.

The interview with the press took place upon his arrival at Crespo International Airport. He said it is necessary to curb the traffic of weapons in a definite way, because this is the main obstacle to peace in this zone of the continent. "My country is victim of a different internal situation, which has been aggravated by foreign interference," the foreign minister said.

FMLN-FDR PROPOSES DIRECT DIALOGUE WITH STONE

PA100020 Paris AFP in Spanish 2051 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Jun (AFP) -- A "direct dialogue to find a political solution to the conflict" in El Salvador was proposed by the FMLN-FDR to President Ronald Reagan's special envoy to Central America, Richard Stone, it was announced in Mexico today.

At a news conference today in this capital, representatives of the FMLN General Command and the FDR Executive Committee said a note to that effect had been "sent a few days ago, inviting Stone to a meeting on U.S. territory, in the presence of U.S. Congressional witnesses." They indicated that the FMLN-FDR invitation was addressed to Stone in his role as "representative of one of the parties involved in our war and not as a mediator," since the U.S. administration is the "economic, political and military supporter of the Salvadoran regime." Therefore, "it is a belligerent party opposing the FMLN-FDR."

The representatives of the two fronts said that the initiative is part of a broader unconditional dialogue proposal, based on the following points:

-- Pursuit of "the recovery of the nation's sovereignty and a just solution" as the main objective that will guarantee peace through the creation of "an independent, democratic society."

-- Participation, on one side, by the Governments of El Salvador and the United States and, on the other, by the FMLN-FDR, an alliance that must be considered "indispensable and indivisible."

-- Carrying out the dialogue in such a way that "the parties find themselves in a climate of trust and security" and "in the presence of third persons who can offer their good offices and serve as witnesses."

The FMLN-FDR representatives declared that "it is important to find a political solution in order to avoid further bloodshed." As to the development of the conflict, they noted that "everything indicates that the strategic equilibrium of the war is tilting toward the FMLN: We are on the offensive, the Salvadoran Army is facing a leadership crisis, according to the press reports, and there are important contradictions between its commands and the U.S. advisers."

At this moment, they added, "we are in control of 95 percent of Chalatenango Department, 70 percent of Morazan Department, and 50 percent of San Vicente and Usulutan Departments."

FPL REBELS OCCUPY SAN SALVADOR RADIO STATIONS

PA100056 Paris AFP in Spanish 0014 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Textq San Salvador, 9 Jun (AFP) -- A command of the People's Liberation Forces (FPL), a member of the FMLN, occupied two important radio stations in this capital today. The rebels transmitted a message warning U.S. military advisers in El Salvador that they "will return to the United States in coffins."

The action took place shortly after noon when three youths, two men and a woman, armed with submachineguns calmly walked into the studios of Radio Cadena Central and Cadena Mil Ochenta, situated in the same building. The group ordered personnel out of the booths and into the waiting room and immediately put on one cassette in each station before leaving the premises. Leaving the building, they entered a vehicle waiting outside and fled in an unknown direction. The cassettes were left running for approximately 25 minutes until police arrived.

In the message, the rebels referred to the results of some of the latest insurgent operations in various points of the country, particularly in the east and north. Besides criticizing the regime of President Alvaro Magana and the United States, the rebels warned U.S. advisers that, just like Albert Schaufelberger, they would all leave Salvadoran territory for the United States in coffins.

The FPL claimed responsibility for killing the U.S. naval adviser on 25 May on the grounds of Central American University.

REBELS ATTACK MILITARY BASE, BREAD FACTORY

PA100006 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2329 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] San Salvador, 9 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- Seven persons were killed today during a guerrilla attack on a military base in the San Vicente Department and a rebel attack on a bread factory in San Salvador. The insurgents also occupied the studios of Radio Cadena Central and Cadena Mil Ochenta in San Salvador and broadcast an antigovernment message.

According to witnesses, three members of the clandestine People's Liberation Forces (FPL) forced some 20 employees of the two radio stations, located in the same building north of San Salvador, to stay in one place while they broadcast the message, in which they reported on recent rebel activities.

These two radio stations have been visited by the rebels at least 10 times in the 3 years since the armed conflict began in El Salvador, and these visits have always been with the same purpose.

Meanwhile, official sources reported that the San Antonio Caminos military base in San Vicente Department was attacked today by FMLN members, causing the deaths of four civil defense members.

In a separate incident, three guards at a San Salvador bread factory were killed when they tried to stop a rebel attack. The rebels took 50,000 colones ($20,000) that, according to the official report, was to be used to pay the workers.

Further Details

PA100227 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Jun 83

[By correspondent Ramiro Paredes]

[Excerpts] San Vicente -- Fighting continues in this region. The rebels attacked and took over the civil defense post in San Antonio Caminos at 0015 local time today. A large group of rebels attacked and occupied the post for 4 hours and 15 minutes. The rebels killed Post Commander Heriberto Rodriguez and patrolmen Gilberto Barahona, Victor Valladares, and Nelson Barahona. They also wounded Arturo Mejia and Lucas Martinez.

Reinforcements were sent in an hour later from Injiboa and this city, but rebels reportedly ambushed them from positions in (Finca Mandinga) and Canton Dos Quebradas, and a fierce clash ensued. The reinforcements later withdrew.

PDC HEADQUARTERS BUILDING MACHINEGUNNED

PA082017 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1301 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 8 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- An unidentified group fired several machinegun bursts at Christian Democratic Party (PDC) headquarters, but no one was hurt. According to PDC Secretary General Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes, the party's headquarters was attacked from a passing station wagon while party members were meeting with a Canadian official whom he did not identify.

Rey Prendes added that the attackers used large-caliber automatic weapons. One of the party's security guards told ACAN-EFE that they were not able to react because it all took place very quickly.

Rey Prendes said that the attackers may be ultrarightists or people who oppose peace, justice, and democracy.

CLANDESTINE RADIO REPORTS STATION OCCUPATIONS

PA100327 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] [Words indistinct] our urban commandos in San Salvador. YSKT [Radio Cadena Central] and Radio 1080 were occupied today at noon by our urban commandos, who broadcast a revolutionary proclamation reporting the details of the patriotic execution of the invader-adviser Albert Schaufelberger on 25 May.

The following is a recorded excerpt of the proclamation broadcast today at noon: [Begin recording] We inform the people that important documents were taken from Lieutenant Commander Albert Schaufelberger [words indistinct] as well as other military documents that are being studied, a submachinegun, a radio, and his personal killing weapon.

War on the Yankee military advisers in El Salvador! Commanders Marcial and Ana Maria, we swear to win! [Words indistinct] (?Long live) the FMLN, heroes of Morazan and [word indistinct].

Warns U.S. Advisers, Police

PA100432 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] The dictatorship recently arrested several persons linked to the FMLN in San Salvador and Santa Ana. They are reported as missing. On 30 June (Carlos Enrique Martinez Guevara) was captured in Santa Ana Department. On 1 June Companero (Isaac Nelson Renderos Ciliezar) was captured by the police. They also captured Commander (Sonia del Carmen Aguinada), Mrs (Adelis de Renderos) and two minors.

Companero (Issac Nelson Renderos) was assassinated during a torture session in the cells of the National Police. Intelligence services of the FMLN have gathered information that indicates the participation of the traitor Alejandro Montenegro in the arrests we have mentioned, with the participation of the U.S. intelligence services.

These events have taken place at a time when the dictatorship is conducting a demagogic and false campaign that refers to amnesty and alleged improvement in respect for human rights. The truth is that the army's massacres of the rural population continue. The terror and murders by the official corps like the National Police continue in the cities.

We call for world solidarity to support our campaign for the release of Commander (Sonia Aguinada) and other companeros captured by the National Police. As of now, we hold responsible both Colonel Lopez Nuila, director of the National Police, and the U.S. advisers, for anything that might happen to Companera (Sonia Aguinada).

VENCEREMOS ANALYZES ELECTION POSTPONEMENT

PA091538 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos ir Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] In recent days a number of events have occurred that are related to the deep contradictions between the fascist right wing and Christian Democracy. This confirms the analyses and conclusions reached by the FMLN a few days ago through Radio Venceremos. These political maneuvers and contradictions must be known by our people.

The fascist right wing, seriously concerned about the disadvantageous position in which it finds itself for the coming elections, due to the U.S. Embassy's support for Christian Democracy, has decided to use all available political means and to exert all possible political pressures to rearrange the political situation in its favor. In this way, the fascist right wing, taking advantage of the control it maintains over a large part of high-ranking armed forces officers, has planned a coup d'etat to prevent Christian Democracy's victory in the next elections.

The U.S. Embassy has tried to reach a political agreement with the right by which, in exchange for stopping the coup d'etat, the elections planned for March [as heard] would be suspended for 2 years. In this way, the Magana government would be extended 2 years and would undertake a reorganization of the cabinet to redistribute the share of power among the various political parties. This situation would enable the right wing to win political time so as to improve its situation and would eliminate the right wing's serious concern about having to yield the formal facade of power to Christian Democracy.

The North Americans would achieve the elimination of the danger of a coup d'etat, which would tarnish the Salvadoran Government's political image abroad that the North Americans have tried so hard to maintain.

The U.S. Government has the choice of facing either the high political costs of a right-wing coup d'etat or the consequences of the postponement of the elections. The North Americans view the latter alternative as acceptable because this solution is preferable to facing the serious problems resulting from having to continue to support politically and militarily an ultraright-wing government that would have reached power through a military coup. After all, the North Americans think it is more advantageous to maintain the current political conditions, since the intervention plan has already been approved by Congress and is being implemented. In any case, to stop the crisis that has begun to be known publicly, and while speedy negotiations are held and a final decision is made, attempts have been made to skillfully portray the events to the news media. It has been said that the decision to postpone the elections has been made due to the legal problems caused by the lack of voter registration lists and the lack of a new constitution, as well as the difficult political and military situation in the country due to the FMLN activities. Those arguments are completely invalid.

A conclusion can be reached from all that is occurring. The fact that the date of the elections is repeatedly being played with clearly shows what we have already stated. It is clear that, for U.S. imperialism, the elections are not the means to solve the conflict in our country. For U.S. imperialism, the elections are simply a card to be played according to political needs. At this time, its main political need is to give political cover to the huge military aid plan for the Salvadoran Army. As the Congress approves the military aid and as the interventionist plan is being carried out without greater difficulty, the elections become less necessary and important for the North Americans. This explains why the postponement of the elections has been accepted due to the right wing's pressures or threats. The postponement of the elections is a victory for the right wing, and this reaffirms that it holds the economic, political, and military power in our country. The right wing is the natural ally of imperialism. Imperialism is in no way willing to open new controversies by questioning its hegemony. The North Americans might be able to overcome a temporary crisis, but at the cost of seeing their political plan for our country fail. This (?situation) demonstrates the falsehood of the elections. That is why we reiterate our position of rejecting the elections. The maneuvers of the U.S. Government and the servile attitude of the bourgeois and opportunistic parties clearly show our people that the only alternative to achieve peace, real democracy, and the revolutionary changes that the fatherland needs is the generalization of the armed struggle against the dictatorship and imperialist intervention.

HAVANA REPORTS RECENT GUERRILLA ACTIONS

PA091810 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Text] More than 90 towns in eastern El Salvador remain incommunicado as a result of recent guerrilla attacks on the communication centers of Pacayal and Cacaguatique located in San Miguel and Morazan Departments, respectively. Official Salvadoran sources said that the country is isolated from other countries because telephone and telegraph lines are out. In a report issued today, the clandestine station Radio Venceremos said that the Pacayal communications center is still in the hands of the insurgents. Venceremos added that attacks against other stations providing telephone and electrical services will continue.

The Venceremos communique [as heard] also pointed out that, since the beginning of the campaign called "In the Face of Reagan's Aggressions, El Salvador Will Win," the guerrillas have killed more than 124 soldiers, captured 93, and seized a large number of arms.

Alleges Army Killing Civilians

FL091322 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Salvadoran guerrillas have charged that a new killing of civilians was perpetrated by the Army, whose command posts announced the opening of a new counterinsurgency offensive. Meanwhile, political attention has been mounting over a possible postponement of the electoral farce which had been scheduled for December.

Radio Venceremos announced that Army troops had killed an undetermined number of peasants who were trying to flee combat zones on the slopes of Cacaguatique Hill.

Some analysts have linked the possible postponement of the electoral farce to President Reagan's reorganization of the political and diplomatic apparatus in Central America and to probable tactical innovations entrusted by Washington to the Salvadoran regime's new defense minister, General Carlos Engenio Viles Casanova.

Army Attack Planned

PA100148 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] International press agencies in the Salvadoran capital have said that the Salvadoran Army and U.S. military advisers are preparing another large-scale attack on guerrilla sations in Chichontepec Volcano in San Vicente Department. According to those sources, specialized troops and troops from the 5th Infantry Brigade carried out mortar and heavy machinegun practice in the hills close to the Chichontepec Volcano with guidance from U.S. military advisers.

It was also learned that a Salvadoran soldier was killed when a military patrol unit was ambushed in San Vincente Department. A battle on (Los Monitos) Hill, only 11 km from San Salvador, was also reported.

The rebel station, Radio Venceremos, rebutted the Salvadoran regime's campaign to portray guerrilla sabotage as human rights violations. The station points out that such sabotage is aimed at reducing the Army's offensive capability and forcing it to commit its forces to the protection of its strategic infrastructure. It also disclosed that the Salvadoran Army murdered many peasants in the Cacaguatique Hill area last week during its operations to regain control over the communications center there.

GUATEMALA

GENERAL, BISHOPS CRITICIZE RIOS MONTT REGIME

PA091350 Paris AFP in Spanish 1943 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Gonzalo Marrolia]

[Text] Guatemala City, 8 Jun (AFP) -- An atmosphere of uncertainty spread through Guatemala City after the Catholic Church and a high-ranking Army officer voiced harsh criticism of General Efrain Rios Montt's government.

The Guatemalan Episcopal Conference accused Rios Montt's government, which came to power by virtue of a coup on 23 March 1982, of leading the country toward increasing militarization," while General Guillermo Echeverria, the Army's most veteran officer, demanded an immediate call for elections and the repeal of an ambitious tax reform.

Gen Echeverria's demands were published in Monday's newspapers in paid advertisements and were supported by most Guatemalan political parties, which have been demanding a return to constitutional rule for several months.

The Catholic Church, which had clashed previously with the present military regime, also supported Gen Echeverria's stand, though unofficially, and last night Guatemalan auxiliary Bishop Msgr Ramiro Pellecer launched a forceful attack against Gen Rios Montt, who is a Protestant preacher of the word sect.

According to an announcement, Gen Echeverria will be dismissed in the next few hours, but some sources maintain that other officers are supporting his statements and "are quite concerned about the weakening of the Army." Echeverria asked Gen Rios Montt to schedule elections so as to separate the Army from governmental activities, thus allowing the institution to "regain its credibility in the eyes of the citizens."

Most parties support this idea, but they did note that Gen Echeverria "is not saying anything new, since all this has been said before," even though the declaration is very important "because of the person who made it." So far, government circles have not commented on Echeverria's letter, and only Defense Minister General Oscar Mejia expressed regret that his colleague utilized the press to criticize the government, thus violating military rules.

Minister Mejia also rejected the Episcopal Conference's accusations that say Rios Montt's government has brought about "a growing militarization" of the country and has nurtured an "aggressive escalation" of Protestantism that forebodes a religious war.

The Guatemalan bishops also charged, in a tone rarely heard since Gen Rios Montt's rise to power, that "cases of missing persons" are still frequent and that "[word indistinct] have to regret unacceptable abuse of power by some authorities." The bishops even maintained that "massacres are still being carried out" in some areas, and deplored the fact that this is still happening "when we thought we had achieved some improvement in the state of violence."

In addition to the harsh criticism by Gen Echeverria and the Guatemalan Bishops, President Rios Montt's regime faces a growing wave of protests from "popular sectors" that oppose an ambitious tax reform he intends to implement next month. The fiscal reform includes, among other things, value added tax, which according to experts will further stimulate inflation.

In the face of the regime's declining popularity, some analysts today pointed out that Gen Rios Montt "is isolating himself," and even warned about the danger of the emergence of a coup threat from "such a compromising" situation. To some observers Gen Rios Montt's situation has become even worse in the face of his deteriorating relations with the U.S. Embassy, particularly with Ambassador Frederic Chapin who, according to rumors, may be removed.

General Echeverria Dismissed

PA091759 Paris AFP in Spanish 2048 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 8 Jun (AFP) -- It has been officially announced that General Guillermo Echeverria, the Guatemalan military officer with the longest service, was dismissed today because he publicly criticized General Efrain Rios Montt's regime in an action that violates armed forces regulations.

Through paid advertisements published on Monday, Echeverria demanded an immediate call for elections and the suspension of the tax reforms that the government plans to implement next month. He also warned Gen Rios Montt of the need to separate the Army from the political-government function, "to prevent further deterioration of the institution's image."

After his letter had been published, Echeverria presented himself at the Defense Ministry and reaffirmed his statement before national Defense Minister General Oscar Mejia, who said he regretted the attitude adopted by Echeverria, whose dismissal was officially announced on Wednesday.

Havana Reports Dismissal

FL091507 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1402 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Guatemala City -- General Jose Guillermo Echeverria, the most senior officer of the Guatemalan Army, has been dismissed for having openly criticized the Rios Montt regime.

In a letter published in the newspapers of this city, Gen Echeverria demanded that the genocidal regime of Rios Montt call elections and that a constituent assembly be convened.

NO OFFICIAL RESPONSE TO BELIZE PROTEST

PA092222 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0300 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Excerpts] Guatemalan Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola said today there is no official reaction when he announced Belize's protest over the death of a Guatemalan in that territory, whose sovereignty is being claimed by Guatemala.

It was announced yesterday in Belmopan that the Government of Belize had lodged a protest with Guatemala. Belize said that on Sunday some Guatemalans had killed Guatemalan citizen Pedro Barrera in Belizean territory. He lived in the village of Arenal.

[Begin Castillo recording] Well, there is no official reaction, since -- as you well know -- Belize is disputed Guatemalan territory and part of a territorial controversy. We do not accept the independence of any Guatemalan territory. Therefore, the Guatemalan Government considers that no border incident occurred, because there is no established border between Guatemala and Belize. [end recording]

General Hector Mario Lopez Fuentes, chief of the Guatemalan Army General Staff, said today that Guatemala will not send troops to the border with Belize following the incident in that area.

[Begin Lopez recording] [in progress] ...anyway, it is not convenient, because Belize is not defenseless anyway. They have English troops. Guatemala has the obligation to defend its territory, as stated in the Constitution and the armed forces laws. It would not be advantageous to send troops, because this might provoke an unnecessary confrontation.

Guatemala has always claimed that Belize is its territory, but this has not been formally defined in juridical and diplomatic terms. Guatemala will not take the risk of embarking on any kind of adventure. In my opinion, if there were an incident -- they claim this, but I have no information about it -- this is probably an exaggeration of the whole thing. [end recording]

ARMY REPORTS KILLING OF PEASANTS IN QUICHE

PA091626 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Text] The Army has issued a press communique reporting the killing of eight peasant workers in Santiago Ixcan, Quiche. They were victims of an armed attack attributed to guerrillas. Three 11-year old children were seriously wounded in this attack, the communique reported. It was said that the incident occurred on Sunday, and the assailants were repelled by civil self-defense patrols of that town.

In addition, the communique reported that the Nenton military detachment received 43 Guatemalans yesterday. They had sought refuge in Chiapas, Mexico, but have now sought the protection of the Guatemalen Army.

HONDURAS

PAZ BARNICA VIEWS CONTADORA, TRAINING BASE

PA080304 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 7 Jun 83

[Interview with Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica; date and place not given; questioners unidentified -- recorded]

[Text] [Paz Barnica] I would characterize the latest Contadora meeting as a highly positive event, a step forward in the search for peace for Central America. I want to say that the nine foreign ministers -- five from Central America and four from Contadora -- met in Panama for 16 consecutive hours. This was a working meeting, deliberations that took place in a multilateral framework.

At the previous meeting in Panama, we nine ministers met for only 90 minutes during a dinner hosted by the foreign minister. This time, however, we met for 16 hours and an agenda of a regional nature was approved. It was approved by the nine foreign ministers.

Furthermore, at one of the plenary sessions I held an open dialogue with Foreign Minister D'Escoto. This dialogue was open, frank, and energentic, but also very respectful. As I said, the agenda that was approved was regional in nature. It involved matters such as the arms buildup, the arms traffic, the withdrawal of foreign military advisers and advisers of any other nature, conflicts between states having and not having common borders, and respect for human rights. These subjects are already on the agenda approved by the nine foreign ministers.

If you recall the peace proposal the Honduras Government presented last year, you will remember that it contains these points.

[Question] Mr Secretary, why do you think some sectors have characterized the Contadora meeting as a failure while you say it was positive?

[Paz Barnica] Because the press communique issued by the four Contadora foreign ministers calling the meeting highly positive does not list the subjects that were approved for the agenda. Nevertheless, considering the topics approved for the agenda -- which are of a regional nature and which were even approved by Nicaragua; that is, by the five Central American foreign ministers and the four from Contadora -- it can be seen that we can march toward a responsible agreement in favor of peace. There was also agreement on creating a technical working-group that will meet on 14 June in Panama. This meeting will take place at the Foreign Ministry advisers level. Its purpose will be to approve procedural rules in order to implement the subjects I have mentioned.

[Question] Mr Foreign Secretary, the border incidents continue. What is your office doing to prevent a continuation of this situation?

[Paz Barnica] The office of the foreign secretary continues using the diplomatic road, which is our duty. We file protests with the Nicaraguan Government after we receive a report from the Honduran Armed Forces. The important thing is to avoid these incidents provoked on the Nicaraguan side. Our duty is to struggle for peace and to put an end to all warlike confrontations. The Honduran people do not want war of any kind. They want social peace so they can work for social and economic progress.

[Question] How do you view the present government's position of agreeing that foreign advisers should withdraw and at the same time permitting Salvadoran soldiers to come?

[Paz Barnica] Regarding the withdrawal of advisers, if agreements are signed to reach a peaceful solution at the regional level, and if these agreements include the withdrawal of military advisers and advisers of any other nature -- Nicaragua has some 7,000 advisers of various natures -- the Honduran Government would be willing to have its advisers withdrawn immediately. This would be the case as soon as there is a serious regional agreement on subjects such as the ones I have just mentioned.

About the training of Salvadoran soldiers and based on the communique from the Armed Forces, I understand that there have been military-level negotiations between the U.S. and the Salvadoran Governments to establish a center of an academic nature.

I want to say that following World War II and the creation of the United Nations, the world has been in the process of decolonization, one of its most outstanding events. Many countries have won their independence and have been part of this decolonization process in the various continents. At this moment, Honduras must strengthen its independence and not make a situation of dependency more acute.

[Question] Doctor, has the cloud of war disappeared?

[Paz Barnica] There has been much talk about war. Today I read a statement by Foreign Minister D'Escoto saying that they have the right to arm. Honduras acquires limited amounts of arms. It has an Army of 15,000 to 16,000 men, which is minimal when compared to the Nicaraguan Army. The Nicaraguan Army is two or three times larger than all the Central American armies put together. I think that we have to work arduously to create detente, and in the framework of the Contadora initiative an effort is being made in this direction.

We Hondurans have to work for peace and at all costs reject any attempt at war, from wherever it may come. Central America must be an area of peace, as President Suazo Cordova has maintained since he became president, and not the scene of polarizing confrontations. In other words, in Central America we should struggle for the common interests of peace and liberty rather than foreign interests that could harm our independence and national dignity.

[Question] Isn't Honduras giving up its neutrality by allowing Salvadoran soldiers to be trained in the country at this new military training center?

[Paz Barnica] Honduras will by no means give up its neutrality, and I have been informed that bilateral negotiations are underway at the military level regarding the establishment of this center, which will be of an academic nature, so that people from different countries can participate as students. The president has not yet signed any agreement on this matter. This is still in the negotiating stage at the military level, as was clearly stated in the press communique issued by the armed forces, by the armed forces' public relations office. Honduras has to strengthen its neutrality, and, above all, the Honduran state and the democratic government headed by Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova have an obligation to strengthen the principle of nonintervention and self-determination of peoples. The Hondurans should solve their own problems; the Salvadorans should solve their own problems. The same applies to the Guatemalans, Nicaraguans, and Costa Ricans. Within a regional framework, the Central Americans should solve their own problems, with the democratic assistance of countries such as those of the Contadora Group rather than with the interference of other countries, interference that would be more harmful to this strife-torn region of the continent.

[Question] On the other hand, Doctor, when will you appear before the National Congress to explain the current government's foreign policy?

[Paz Barnica] On Wednesday, 15 June I will go before the Congress at the Foreign Ministry's initiative, because I have not been called for an explanation. I will explain, honestly and frankly, the facts of Honduran foreign policy regarding basic issues, some of which you know and some you can imagine.

Foreign Policy, Stone Visit Viewed

PA091718 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Interview with Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica; date and place not given; all questioners unidentified -- recorded]

[Text] [Paz Barnica] Reports and headlines in the various news media regarding the statements I made today include some remarks that I regard as misinterpretations, because Honduran newsmen are extremely efficient and cordial. These concern whether the establishment of the military training center may jeopardize Honduras' neutrality.

In the first place, I must stress that no agreement has been signed so far by the president for the establishment of this center; rather, this is under bilateral consideration at the military level. However, I do wish to make it clear that Hodduras must take all necessary steps to prevent a weakening of its position of neutrality in regard to the conflicts in our neighboring countries.

I reaffirm that Hondurans must solve their own problems; that Salvadorans must solve their own problems by themselves; and that all countries must do the same. Central Americans must solve their own problems within a regional context with the assistance of democratic countries like those of the Contadora Group, and without meddling by foreign interests of any political nature.

It would be healthy for Honduras to strengthen the principles of nonintervention and self-determination of peoples, which are rules of conduct in President Suazo Cordova's foreign policy, as he said when he assumed the presidency on 27 January 1982, and to strengthen its position of neutrality. Consequently, any measure that may interfere with the enforcement of full neutrality must be deeply analyzed. This does not mean passiveness. Honduras' neutrality must be an aggressive neutrality, that is, not a neutrality of indifference. It is aggressive because we participate in multilateral regional talks in order for the political turmoil plaguing Central America, of which Honduras is a victim because it is affected by the problems being experienced by our neighboring countries due to their internal conflicts, like the civil war in El Salvador and the civil war in Nicaragua... [changes thought] that is to say, that measures be adopted, that serious and responsible agreements be adopted within a regional context, within a global and regional context, including the discussion of internal, bilateral, and multilateral issues.

However, in order to maintain a coherent foreign policy it is fundamental not to take steps that may jeopardize this position of neutrality, which does not mean indifference, but active participation in working out agreements to achieve peace. We seek peace. If Nicaragua seeks war, we reassert that we seek peace. We do foresee that due to its excessive arms buildup Nicaragua may attack Honduras. Honduras is ready to defend itself. However, it is our duty to struggle for peace and reject any warmongering attempt, regardless of where it comes from.

[Question] Why is no attempt being made to establish a training center for our own Army and not one of a regional nature?

[Paz Barnica] This would not be a base. As you say, this is a plan under consideration to establish a training center of a regional nature. This is as much as I can tell you, plus the fact that negotiations of a bilateral nature are being held at a military level, as explained in the bulletin issued by the armed forces public relations office.

[Question] Mr Foreign Secretary, regarding the visit President Ronald Reagan's special envoy will make the president and to you today, what points are on the agenda?

[Paz Barnica] On Thursday I will have the pleasure of receiving and exchanging views with Ambassador Stone, with whom I had the opportunity to become acquainted in March in the United States. During our meeting I will outline for him Honduras' international views and internal situation. Ours is a democratic government that must build up a foreign policy reflecting the country's fundamental interests, as well as the feelings and ideas of the country's various sectors.

[Question] To what extent will Mr Stone's visit be of benefit to Honduras?

[Paz Barnica] I think that every dialogue, every exchange of views is beneficial, and that a visit by a top-level official like Mr Stone, who is President Reagan's personal representative in Central America, provides a valuable opportunity to present our views. This has been done by other governments he has visited during his tour.

Welcomes Ambassador Stone

PA100021 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 2152 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Speech delivered by Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica during luncheon in honor of Richard Stone, U.S. ambassador at large for Central America, at the La Ronda Hotel in Tegucigalpa on 9 June 1983 -- live or recorded]

[Text] Mr Ambassador, members of Ambassador Stone's delegation, Cabinet members, presidents and leaders of the political parties, representatives of labor and peasant organizations, members of private enterprise, reporters, and guests:

Mr Ambassador, in April I had the opportunity of meeting and talking with you in Washington. At that time I noted your valuable opinion and interest in finding a decent solution to the acute crisis that is affecting this strategic region of the Western Hemisphere.

Central America was born to united independent life, and the nations that form it found themselves identified with ties of brotherhood based on culture, tradition, and common ideals. But that independent and united Central America of the past century is different from the one we see today. It has become a region burdened by social and political tears that, according to our belief, originated from outdated procedures, age-old social injustice, political oppression, and marginal economies. This situation is painful and regrettable, especially because it is taken advantage of by those who promote chaos, anarchy, and violence as a means to seize power.

Mr Ambassador, as you know, Honduras has been and is a peaceful and peaceloving country. Today it finds itself in the midst of this regional vortex and is also feeling the results of the acute problems that affect neighboring countries. This is why Honduras has the duty to work for a stable and lasting peace in Central America; but a peace based on faithful observance of those principles recognized around the world, such as nonintervention, self-determination of peoples, mutual respect, political pluralism, respect for human rights, and cooperation with interdependence.

This situation makes Honduras strengthen a policy of belligerent neutrality: that is, an active neutrality that, while understanding that Central American problems must be solved by Central Americans, also works through international organizations for a peace that will help support the interests that identify us and not the foreign interests that denaturalize the identity of our peoples, who are called on to strengthen their national independence through international interdependence.

Therefore, Mr Ambassador, the Honduran Government encourages and gives its support to the Contadora Group initiative. We believe it is a workable alternative for an overall regional solution to the different complex problems that burden our countries and sadden our peoples. For this reason we appreciate your wise statement during your recent visit to Costa Rica, that democracy is the most effective weapon to achieve peace in Central America.

When Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova was sworn into office he proclaimed to the country and the world that Central America should be a zone of peace and not the stage for polarizing hegemonic confrontations. Inspired by this purpose, and as established by international law, we have tried to carry out, with internal and external difficulties, a foreign policy based on the fundamental defense of our national interests.

I am sure, Ambassador Stone, that your visit to Honduras will allow you to appreciate and value these opinions and ideas that I have allowed myself to express, which are framed and have their main intention in the struggle for peace in the framework of democratic, free, and pluralist institutions.

In this spirit I greet you and I will toast the success of your difficult and important mission. I will also toast the strengthening of cordial relations between the United States and Honduras, relations that will continue to grow as long as they are always based on authentic mutual respect and cooperation with dignity. To your health, Mr Ambassador. [applause]

FOUR ACCUSED TERRORISTS TAKEN TO COURT

PA091954 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Four presumed terrorists, members of various subversive groups active in Central America, were taken yesterday afternoon to the First Criminal Court in Tegucipalpa. Lawyer Daniel Bueso Gomez is in charge of this court.

The group -- three young men and an old man -- entered the court accompanied by several policemen who kept them manacled in pairs and under strict vigilance. The men were identified as:

Oscar Arnulfo Maldonado Maldonado, alias Marvin, a Honduran member of the Ramon Amaya Amador terrorist cell. At the time of his capture, he was participating in the vaccination drive in Choluteca, in the area vector control division of the 4th region;

Leopoldo Santos Flores, alias Marco Antonio Flores Barahona, a Honduran known among the leftist groups as Sebastian. He had been a member of the Lorenzo Zelaya terrorist command, which has been responsible for several dynamite attacks in the capital. According to police, terrorist Sebastian was recruited by former Commander Efrain Duarte (Salgado), a former university professor and dissident of the Lorenzo Zelaya subversive command in Guatemala;

Salvadoran terorrist Fidel Ventura Bonilla, known in the ranks of the FMLN as Commander Jupiter. He was also taken before Judge Bueso Gomez. On being questioned by the police, it was learned that Commander Jupiter resided in Managua most of the time, and that he had come to Honduras to recruit young Hondurans. These young men would later be trained in Nicaragua by Sandinist commandos and then incorporated into the Salvadoran guerrillas, mainly in the FMLN combat groups currently struggling to overthrow the Alvaro Magana government;

Finally, young Nicaraguan Roberto Jose Salguero, 28, born in Managua. He is known as Gasolina, and belongs to the FSLN. He entered Honduras on 18 May 1983 on an espionage mission for the Nicaraguan Sandinist commanders.

NICARAGUA

EXPELLED CONSULS ARRIVE; HOLD NEWS CONFERENCE

PA091438 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Five fraternal Nicaraguan consuls, who termed Sandinist morale high, arrive yesterday in Sandino Airport and were acclaimed heroes by our people organized into the 19 July Sandinist Youth Movement, AMNLAE [Lusia Amanda Espinoza Association of Nicaraguan Women], ANDEN [National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers], and the Sandinist Workers Federation. Foreign Minister Father Miguel D'Escoto Brockman; Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga; Guerrilla Commander Walter Ferrety, national chief of the Sandinist police; and several Foreign Ministry officials were on hand at the airport to receive the consuls.

Out of an Aeronica airplane stepped Companeros Mario Gonzalez, consul in Miami; Leonor Arguello de Hupper, consul in New York; (Alina Cirquel), consul in Houston; and Alejandro Palacios and Aristides Ruiz; consuls in Los Angeles.

At a news conference held by the expelled diplomats, they said the American people had seen them off fraternally, but they pointed out that in Miami a group of worms and Somozist mercenaries had harassed them as they were leaving for Nicaragua. The Reagan administration's arbitrary measure of closing six Nicaraguan Consulates in the United States is an open violation of human rights, because thousands of Nicaraguan residents in that country are left unprotected.

Deputy Foreign Minister Astorga said at Augusto C. Sandino International Airport that the Nicaraguan Consulates in the United States have been closed indefinitely and that, therefore, the flow of imports and exports between the two countries will be seriously affected. Meanwhile, the consuls in San Francisco, New York, Houston, Los Angeles, and Miami said at the news conference that many passport requests were left pending. The consulates' functions include the legalization of invoices and the authentication of documents to facilitate imports and exports between the United States and Nicaragua.

Note Protests U.S. 'Arrogance'

PA101358 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] In a note to the U.S. State Department, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry refers to the Reagan administration's arrogant and unjustified decision to order the closing of six Nicaraguan Consulate in that nation and to expel consulate and administrative officials with their families.

Our government feels that this new hostile action is part of the Reagan administration's aggressive policy, which ranges from support for military operations against Nicaragua from Honduran territory to organizing criminal actions through the CIA against our country's domestic and foreign security. It is evident that this new militaristic stance hinders the efforts of Latin American and other responsible countries, which advocate peace in Central America and the self-determination of the peoples.

While the Reagan administration seeks to punish Nicaragua for expelling three CIA agents, our government gives it a lesson of honesty by leaving the doors open so that U.S. citizens can enter our country in accordance with the provisions and mechanisms implemented by the Immigration and Aliens Directorate.

'CYNICAL' U.S. EMBASSY NOTE CRITICIZED

PA081933 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 8 Jun 83 p 2

[Editorial by Francisco Urias Argueta: "The CIA Is Exposed but Couldn't Care Less"]

[Text] Someone was telling me not long ago that the CIA is like a wild tiger. I did not agree then, and I still think we are offending tigers by comparing them with the U.S. organization that kills patriots in various countries just because they are struggling against imperialism.

It is true that no one would notice if another spot were to appear on a tiger's skin, just as the spots that tarnish the CIA every time new dirty maneuvers are uncovered anywhere in the world go unnoticed. A dirty CIA maneuver in Nicaragua has been uncovered. The CIA wanted to kill Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto.

It must be said in defense of wild tigers that they attack only when they are hungry or when they are attacked. But the CIA's appetite, its thirst for human blood, its criminal impulses, are never satisfied.

Tigers, as everybody knows, eat the prey they kill, but the CIA kills just for the sake of killing, or just because someone is an obstacle or gets in the way, because it hates the intelligence, the fine bearing, and the dignity of some men who hoist banners of nobility. Therefore, I want to clearly state my decision to defend the tigers, wild or otherwise, who live in this world. Regarding the CIA, I can do no less than state that the attitude of the U.S. Embassy induces nausea in me. That embassy has tried to deny what has been demonstrated beyond any doubt.

In a note sent to the Nicaraguan Government, which was published Monday by LA PRENSA, the embassy rejects the charges. The paper that serves the U.S. interests in Nicaragua reported that the U.S. Embassy has rejected "in the most emphatic terms" the charges that the Nicaraguan Government filed against three U.S. Embassy officials.

The pro-imperialist paper pointed out that the U.S. Embassy vigorously protested "...these expulsions that go against the most fundamental diplomatic rules" after the Nicaraguan Government announced the expulsion of the persons involved in the criminal maneuver. Under the U.S. representatives' concept -- that of the Reagan administration -- a good diplomatic attitude would have been to allow the CIA murderers to cary out their murder plans against the Nicaraguan Government officials.

According to the cynical note and to those who published it in the newspaper, it is the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction which is breaking the rules by deciding on the expulsions. They never acknowledge the right of the Sandinist people's revolution to defend itself from its enemies.

A big lesson can be learned from all this: the greatness of men, of the people. The crookedness of those who do not respect the rules of coexistence becomes evident at difficult moments. At easy moments anyone can be great and admirable.

At a moment when Nicaragua is enduring the worst attacks and slander from abroad, Nicaragua responds with greatness. State security has destroyed the CIA's master plan. Meanwhile, wild imperialism cannot find a place to hide its tail.

RECENT HONDURAN ACTIONS PROTESTED AT UN

PA091547 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Text] United Nations -- Nicaragua denounced at the UN Security Council today two Honduran Army aggressions against Sandinist armed forces in the border region. One of these attacks was carried out on Sunday when approximately 600 Somozist mercenaries, accompanied by an undetermined number of Honduran troops, invaded Nicaraguan territory.

In his protest note, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto said that on this occasion Nicaragua witnessed how the Somozist forces used trucks owned by the Honduran Armed Forces, whose presence on the border is very large. The Nicaraguan Army successfully repelled the attack in El Porvenir, northeast of Jalapa and 2 km from the border, the note added. Twenty patriots lost their lives as a result of this treacherous and criminal attack carried out by Honduran soldiers and Somozist mercenaries.

The second protest note reported a Honduran attack on Teotecacinte, north of Jalapa, on 12 June. The Honduran Army fired 41 mortar shells on Nicaraguan positions that were fighting counterrevolutionaries.

According to the Nicaraguan Government, this action proves the Honduran Armed Forces' complicity, support, and participation in the criminal plans that the United States is carrying out against free Nicaragua.

STATE COUNCIL OFFICIAL ON 1985 ELECTIONS

PA091559 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Mariano Fiallos, president of the State Council's Foreign Commission, said today that only a war in Central America -- which the Reagan administration is currently promoting -- could prevent planned elections in Nicaragua in 1985.

Speaking before a group of U.S. intellectuals visiting this country, Nicaraguan parliamentarian Fiallos said that the U.S. President is trying to block the electoral process, despite the fact that a political parties law is being discussed in this country.

TRIBUNALS SERVE INDICTMENTS TO 29 DEFENDANTS

PA081606 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Text] The Anti-Sandinist People's Tribunals yesterday served 29 defendants with indictments prepared against them by the State Attorney's Office. They are charged with violation of the Public Security Law. Omar Cortes, district court president of this tribunal, read the notice to the 29 defendants so that they could select their defense attorneys. If they don't do this, the court will appoint lawyers for them. The defendants include Jose Miguel Gonzalez Rivas, Benitin Cardenas Rojas, Alexander George Krudebrook, Steve Blandord Gark, Modesto Florez Tellez, and Ermita Shaw.

HAVANA NOTES RETURN OF DIPLOMATS FROM U.S.

PA100424 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] While thousands of Nicaraguans welcomed the diplomats expelled from the United States, Sandinist troops repelled a new invasion from Honduras by former Somozist guardsmen.

The information from Managua is that 140 of the 600 counterrevolutionaries who entered through the Jalapa region were killed, while the remainder were forced to turn back into Honduras. Spokesman for the Nicaraguan Army reported that approximately 1,000 counterrevolutionaries are being regrouped in Fort Mocoron in Honduras in order to attack the North Atlantic region of Nicaragua.

Meanwhile, thousands of people gathered at Managua Airport to welcome the Nicaraguan diplomats expelled from the United States. The measure was taken in reprisal for the expulsion from Nicaragua of three American diplomats who, under instructions of the CIA, were attempting to carry out a plot to assassinate Sandinist leaders.

Promotion of 'CIA Infiltrator' Noted

FL091540 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge Martinez has promoted Marlene Moncada Martinez to the grade of lieutenant for what he termed heroism while working inside enemy ranks. Marlene, infiltrated in the Central Intelligence Agency -- the CIA -- since last year, frustrated the plot to assassinate Foreign Minister D'Escoto. The uncovering of that plot caused the expulsion of the three high-level officials from the U.S. Embassy in Managua.

Reports on Rebel Casualties

FL081909 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Text] It has been reported in Managua that approximately 140 former Somozist Guardesmen died in the fighting which has taken place since last Saturday in border areas of Nueva Segovia Department. Captain Roberto Sanchez, chief of the Nicaraguan Defense Ministry's Department for Foreign and Public Relations, has said that the above casualties were inflicted upon the contingent of nearly 600 counterrevolutionaries who had entered the country with the support of the Honduran Army.

Protest Note to Honduras Reported

PA091947 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has reported that the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] is fighting firmly against combined forces of Honduran soldiers and Somozist mercenaries in the border area of Nicaragua's Nueva Segovia Department.

Another protest note sent by the Nicaraguan Government to President Roberto Suazo Cordova denounces the shelling of Nicaraguan territory by Honduran troops last Sunday. The attack on the El Porvenir area, located 2 km from the border, lasted 3 hours. The official note adds that immediately afterward approximately 600 enemy soldiers invaded Nicaraguan territory and were repelled at El Porvenir. Twenty Sandinist soldiers perished in the effort.

Regarding these incidents, Captain Roberto Sanchez, a member of the EPS, said that this is the largest aggression undertaken thus far by the Honduran Army, and he denounced Honduran support to the counterrevolutionary groups active in the northern part of Zelaya Department, which have suffered considerable losses.

U.S. EXPULSION OF NICARAGUANS TERMED 'CLUMSY'

FL091839 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1141 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Commentary by Joaquin Rivery and Oscar Ferrer during the Revista de la Manana program -- live]

[Excerpts] [Ferrer] The latest developments in the incident involving Nicaragua lead us to the conclusion that we are in the presence of another clumsy emotional reaction by U.S. Government officials, who have thus made their failure even worse. We are referring to the Reagan administration's decision to expel 21 Nicaraguan consular officials in response to the Sandinist government's decision to expel three U.S. diplomats involved in a plot designed to destabilize it. The plot included the assassination of revolutionary leaders, namely Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto.

Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge said yesterday that it would be completely absurd to believe that Nicaragua made up the plot designed to destabilize its government because it produced sound evidence, which was also made available to the international press, of the involvement of the three U.S. diplomats.

The U.S. reprisal included the closure of six Nicaraguan consulates in the United States. I believe the U.S. Administration's irrational decision can be regarded as outright clumsiness.

[Rivery] I endorse your remark that this was another emotional reaction by the Reagan administration. Yet it shows us Latin Americans whom we are dealing with. Sound evidence was produced of the involvement in the plot of the three U.S. diplomats and of their being CIA agents. I do not believe anyone could have any doubts about this since this type of incident is commonplace throughout the world.

To a certain extent, it was logical for the United States to deny the tangible evidence produced to prove the charges since to concede that U.S. diplomats assigned to a country have been plotting to assassinate a leader of that host country would bring about a scandal of widespread international proportions. However, we are already used to the international scandals in which the United States is involved through the CIA.

The world also expected Reagan to take retaliatory actions even though he had no reason to do so because his action resembles that of the thief who is caught redhanded and begins to fire shots at the jury and judge who convicted him. Anyway, retaliatory actions were predictable.

One thing about the U.S. reprisal is that it is completely abnormal. It is an overreaction to expel 21 consular officials and to close consular offices -- that is, all of the Nicaraguan consulates in the United States with the exception of the one in Washington -- in retaliation for the Nicaraguan decision to expel three U.S. diplomats who were actually CIA agents and who engaged in a plot against Nicaragua. The Reagan administration has earned for itself a reputation for over-reacting.

The U.S. allegation that the consular offices were closed because they were espionage centers is, if not disproportionate, ridiculous; first, because Nicaragua is a country which should try as hard as possible not to provoke such a powerful enemy as the United States and, second, because Nicaragua lacks the resources to set up large, expensive, espionage rings in the United States like the ones set up by the United States in Nicaragua.

COMMENTARY ON 'AGGRESSION' AGAINST NICARAGUA

PA081415 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 7 Jun 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] For the last 2 months, Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary groups have increased their armed aggression against the new Nicaragua. They attack this nation from their bases in Honduras and Costa Rica, countries to which the U.S. imperialist government sends the most complete military and financial assistance via the CIA. The anti-Sandinists' main armed aggressions take place against the northern border of Nicaragua. In other words, they are armed former Somozist Guards who are uselessly trying to take over part of Nicaraguan territory in order to establish a provisional government.

More than five counterrevolutionary offensives have been repelled by the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] near Jalapa, Nueva Segovia Department. The anti-Sandinists have left behind dozens of dead and wounded as well as a large amount of war equipment. After each defeat, the Somozists seek refuge in Honduras, from whence they come to attack again. In their latest actions, these groups have been supported by the Honduran Army, which tries to pave the way for what is called an adequately prepared artillery action. This involves the use of heavy cannon against Sandinist positions.

It was reported on Monday that two infantry and an artillery battalion of the Honduran Army opened fire on EPS positions in support of some 600 counterrevolutionaries who started a new invasion of Nicaragua. The action started through the zones of El Porvenir, (La Cantina), and (Damasli), located near Jalapa, Nueva Segovia Department, near the Honduran border.

The newspaper BARRICADA, edited in Managua, has declared that the shameless participation of Honduran troops in the criminal aggression against Nicaraguan territory represents an intolerable and highly dangerous action due to the consequences it might provoke. The aggression, BARRICADA adds, once more confirms the criminal plans of the U.S. imperialist government against the Sandinist revolution.

However, while Washington encourages and finances these Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries' actions, it also prepares plans intended to create terror among the Nicaraguan people by carrying out assassination attempts and sabotage. This Monday, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry reported that three officials from the U.S. Embassy in Managua were declared personae non gratae for their participation in plans to kill leaders and members of the Sandinist government. They are Linda Pfeifel, David Noble Greig, and Ermila Loreta Rodriguez, who had the posts of political affairs officer, first secretary, and consul, respectively.

According to the investigations carried out by the Nicaraguan State Security Department, these diplomats met with political leaders, workers, and some state officials, both inside the country and abroad, with the intention of recruiting and training them to carry out sabotage attacks and other destabilizing actions against the Sandinist revolution. The Nicaraguan Government lodged a strong protest with the U.S. Government for the conduct and activities of these members of its diplomatic mission in Managua, and stressed that these people engaged in crimes against the security of the Nicaraguan state in addition to flagrantly violating the most elemental norms of international diplomacy.

SENATE COMMITTEE'S APPROVAL OF RADIO MARTI NOTED

FL091144 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] The U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee has approved the establishment of a counterrevolutionary radio station aimed at broadcasting subversive propaganda against the people and Government of Cuba. Approval of the project by 13 votes for and 4 against will allow the Reagan administration to use $9.7 million to put the radio station on the air.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee turned down a proposal by Senator Edward Zorinsky to provide a time slot for broadcasts to Cuba via the so-called Voice of America. Nevertheless, the committee approved $5 million to compensate U.S. commercial stations which may experience radio interference from Havana as a result of the establishment of Radio Marti.

During the debates, Senator Clairborne Pell said that the establishment of Radio Marti could damage Washington-Havana relations even further, a prospect which he said would not benefit U.S. interests.

END TO COERCIVE ECONOMIC MEASURES DEMANDED

FL092103 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2002 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] In Belgrade, Yugoslavia, Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrizas Ruiz has demanded the immediate elimination of the coercive economic measures that are being applied by the United States against our country, Nicaragua, and other nations. Because of their very nature and objective, he siad, such actions are incompatible with the most elementary norms of international coexistence and affect the normal development of economic relations as well as cooperation among states.

Before a plenary session of the sixth UNCTAD Conference, the chief of the Cuban delegation urged the participants to adopt measures to begin overcoming the problems the world economy is suffering. The economic crisis and the policy originating in the main developed capitalist countries, Ricardo Cabrizas stressed, have had a demolishing impact upon our countries. Cabrizas denounced the existing trade and economic blockade of our country that was imposed by the United States more than 20 years ago. He referred to the failure of the Ronald Reagan administration when it attempted to impose a trade embargo on the Soviet Union.

Cabrizas recalled that Argentina had also been the victim of economic sanctions during the Malvinas war for exercising its sovereign rights over its territory. Something similar happened barely 1 week ago, he added, when the United States reduced by more than 90 percent its sugar quota imports from Nicaragua in violation of its obligations as a GATT member.

VECINO ALEGRET, USSR'S YELYUTIN MEET IN MOSCOW

FL090105 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Text] Cuban Minister of Higher Education Fernando Vecino Alegret held talks today with his Soviet counterpart, Cyacheslav Yelyutin. The meeting took place in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and was attended by Cuban Ambassador to the USSR Rene Anillo Capote and the representative of the Cuban Ministry of Higher Education in the USSR, Angel Vega.

Later in the day, Vecino Alegret visited (Lokonosov) University, where he met with its rector, (M. Lagunov). The Cuban minister presented a plaque to (Lagunov) in recognition of the institution's 20 years of cooperation in training cadres and specialists for Cuba.

Vecino Alegret is paying a working visit to the USSR and will tour several education centers attended by Cuban students.

SOVIET GOSPLAN DELEGATION VISITS MINISTRIES

FL091210 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] The Soviet delegation led by Petr Paskar', first deputy chairman of the Gosplan, member of the CPSU Central Committee and and of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has paid visits to the Sugar and the Fishing Industry Ministries in Havana.

Today, the delegation will visit various installations to learn about Cuban advances in the research of sugarcane by-products. Tomorrow, the delegation will visit economic centers in the special municipality of the Isle of Youth and in Camaguey Province.

LEGRAND MEETS GDR'S WEISS IN BERLIN 9 JUN

FL091441 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1302 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Berlin -- Gerard Weiss, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, met today with Daniel Legrand Lopez, president [as heard] of the Cuban National Institute of Automated Systems and Computer Technology, and discussed cooperation between the two countries in this field.

• ANAP PRESIDENT CRUZ ARRIVES IN BERLIN 9 JUN

FL091909 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Jose Ramirez Cruz, president of the National Association of Small Farmers and member of the Communist Party of Cuba's Central Committee, arrived in Berlin today on an official visit to the GDR.

The Cuban delegation will visit an exposition on advanced agriculture in Markkleeberg, agricultural training and production facilities, and other places.

DR KING ADDRESSES CARICOM FINANCE MINISTERS

FL092106 Bridgetown CANA in English 1840 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, June 9, CANA -- Secretary-general of the Caribbean Community (Caricom), Barbadian Dr Kurleigh King, says finance ministers meeting here today and tomorrow will for the first time attempt to articulate a regional response to the global economic crisis.

Speaking today at the opening of the two-day meeting, Dr King said the ministers were somewhat late in getting started on a request made by the heads of government, since the crisis began several years ago. And, he pointed out, even now they were not sure how best to go about formulating such a response.

"There is no doubt, however, that a co-ordinated response has many advantages," he said. "For example, even if we decided not to go the same route, to adopt the same approaches, the sharing of experiences and the exchanging of ideas should strengthen our determination as we push ahead in the knowledge that others, sympathetic and supportive of our efforts, are facing the same uphill task." But, Dr King said, moral support was not really the reason for the attempts at co-ordination. "If we are able to devise policy measures that are compatible and mutually reinforcing, each country's task will be made easier by the others' success," he said.

Dr King said that the community's real goal was to interlock the 12 member states' responses so that it would take less effort, less sacrifice on each one's part to achieve greater, more far-reaching results.

"We are looking for ways to link our efforts, to provide leverage to our approaches, in order to remove the many obstacles in the path of economic progress," he said, adding: "Should we be successful, new meaning will have been given to regional integration."

Said Dr King: "Encouraged by our successes in trade, in functional co-operation, and in foreign policy co-ordination, we approach this new aspect of our joint efforts with better than average chances of success."

The finance ministers meeting is preparatory to next month's 10th anniversary Caricom heads of government summit in Port-of-Spain.

TOM ADAMS CALLS FOR CARICOM TAXING POWER

FL092132 Bridgetown CANA in English 1848 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, June 9, CANA -- As the Caribbean Community (Caricom) now approaching its 10th anniversary should be given some taxing power to provide an independent source of income for the Georgetown-based Secretariat and other government-supported regional institutions, Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams said today. [as received] And he told the standing committee of Caricom finance ministers meeting here that some thought should also be given to formalising the degree of decentralisation that already exists within the community. "A very small stamp duty or other levy on imports, which would have the effect of making those most able to support Caricom carry the financial burden of running it, would be one means," Adams said, adding: "There may be many other formulae, for example, one which would also include the value of exports in the tax base, that could be adequate or might prove better."

The 12-nation regional economic grouping next month celebrates its 10th anniversary and it will be marked by a heads of government summit in Trinidad and Tobago, where the Caricom Treaty was signed in 1973.

Adams said he felt the regional structure could be given a greater financial independence and should not necessarily depend on direct subvention from individual governments.

The Barbados prime minister also said sufficient attention had not been given to the geographical extent of Caricom. He pointed out that in Europe, which although larger, is also much more densely populated than Caricom, the institutions of the European Economic Community (EEC) are decentralised. "We should give some thought to formalising the degree of decentralisation that already exists in Caricom, for example, the locations of university campuses, the meteorological services, the West Indies shipping services, and so on, and establish other Caricom institutions in other regional centres."

He said the one which would concern this meeting would be the location of administrative offices for the Caricom Multilateral Clearing Facility (CMCE) an inter-governmental credit arrangement, or its successor organisation.

Adams said a resolution of the problems facing the facility will be for Barbados the major item on the agenda for the two-day meeting.

CARICOM LABOR DESK TERMED INEFFECTIVE

FL091331 Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 3 Jun 83 p 1

[Text] Mr Burns Bonadie leaves his post as secretary-treasurer of the Caribbean Congress of Labour unhappy with the functioning of the Caricom Labour Desk.

At a farewell press interview yesterday, Mr Bonadie noted that a Labour Desk at Caricom was one of the things called for by the CCL during his 10 years with the organization.

But he did not think it was very effective.

He said the original idea of a Labour Desk was to have a sort of co-ordinating body at Caricom. He added that it had a certain mandate from ministers of labour to update labour legislation in the region and to carry out specific programmes dealing with workers' legislation.

"Although it received a mandate, nothing has been done as a follow-up to make sure that these things are carried out", Senator Bonadie regretted.

Looking back at some of the outstanding achievements of the CCL, Senator Bonadie cited its call for speedy passage of the Caribbean Basin Initiative legislation through the United States Congress.

He also pointed to the role played by the Caribbean Congress of Labour in getting the American Federation of Labour-Congress of International Organisations to come around to supporting the CBI measure.

The AFL-CIO, the big American federation representing organised labour, had taken a position of total opposition to the CBI last year. However, after discussions with them in February this year, the CCL managed to persuade them to change their position from total opposition to partial support of the CBI measure. Mr Bonadie thought that governments in the region recognised that the labour movement played a pivotal role "in the exercise." He said that the CCL was also responsible for exposing the people in the region responsible for the transhipment of arms to South Africa.

Mr Bonadie said the regional labour movement could also take credit for having exposed what was happening in Suriname and ensuring that the public learnt the truth about the events which led up to the assassination of labour leaders in that country in Decmeber last year.

Senator Evelyn Greaves, first vice president of the CCL, will be taking over Mr Bonadie's duties until the election of a successor to Mr Bonadie at the CCL Congress in October or November of this year.

BAHAMAS

FNM LEADER RAPS 'MASSIVE UNEMPLOYMENT'

FL091151 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 2 Jun 83 p 1

[Excerpt] Another Labour Day is here, yet there are still thousands of unemployed Bahamians suffering from "deprivation, broken hopes, faded dreams and unfulfilled ambition."

FNM [Free National Movement] leader Kendal G.L. Isaacs issued a statement yesterday saying that the FNM is aware of the deprivation and suffering inflicted upon thousands of Bahamians because of the state of "massive unemployment" in the country.

"We can think of no problem as unsettling and dangerous as large-scale unemployment," Mr Isaacs said. "Everybody in the society suffers as a result. Those who are fortunate enough to have jobs suffer because they have to share with unemployed relatives and friends and they have to carry more than their share of the nations's tax burden which is heavy enough as it is," the opposition leader said.

He said the FNM is particularly concerned over the growing number of young Bahamians who are unemployed. "Thousands of those leaving schools this year will not be able to find employment," he said. "This is a tragedy of vast proportions since it represents much human suffering, many wasted lives, and a growing threat to the peace and security of our country."

GOVERNMENT ACCUSED OF BREAKING ILO CHARTER

FL091205 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 2 Jun 83 p 1

[Excerpt] Trade Union Congress Secretary-General Leonard Archer is still corresponding with the International Labour Organization meeting, which opened yesterday in Geneva, Switzerland, to prevent the Bahamas delegation, headed by Minister of Labour Clement Maynard, from being seated at the conference.

The TUC has claimed that the government has broken the ILO charter by not paying the expenses for a representative from both union and employers to attend the conference. Mr Archer said the TUC board met on May 24 when it was agreed the conference would be notified of the breach and the union's request that the Bahamas delegation not be seated.

BARBADOS

ASSEMBLY OF CARIBBEAN STATES RECOMMENDED

FL091241 Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 3 Jun 83 p 2

[Text] Mr. Erskine Sandiford, deputy leader of the opposition in the House of Assembly, has called for the establishment of an assembly of Caribbean states with membership drawn from the national parliament.

He said that this could be an institution where the peoples of the region, through their elected parliamentary representatives, would have a direct voice in the affairs of the Caribbean Community (Caricom).

Mr. Sandiford made the point while speaking in Parliament as he moved a resolution in his name, calling upon government to take appropriate steps to restore faith and confidence in Caricom, strengthen the mechanisms of regional integration, and secure further democratic control over the institutions of Caricom.

He said that he looked forward to the day when there could be direct elections to such a Caribbean assembly, but for the immediate future the membership could be on a proportionate basis, depending on the membership of the various parliaments.

Referring to the problems now being faced in Caricom, Mr. Sandiford said that this was a time for statemanship and diplomacy, and not a time for harsh words. He said he hoped that steps and efforts would be made to bring the countries of the regional grouping closer together, and not to push them further apart and slow down the pace of regional integration and co-operation.

Mr. Sandiford said that Caricom meant a great deal to the region, "and we must try to build on what we have now and not to destroy it."

He called on government to try to restore faith and confidence in the regional integration movement, and to realise that it was vital and essential to the economic, political, social and cultural development of the region.

Shadow minister of finance, Dr. Richard (Richie) Haynes, in supporting the resolution said that Caricom was very important to Barbados, and perhaps more essential for Barbados than for some of the other member states. He said that this country's development depended to a large extent on the island's capacity to trade within Caricom, and added that there was need to address the problems of Caricom with a degree of sensibility.

Dr. Haynes said that Barbados was in no position to be talking about harsh words, or to be threatening any Caricom leader.

He also said that, if the situation between Barbados and Trinidad was not sorted out soon, it could be to the disadvantage of this country. "We have found ourselves in a very weak negotiating position," Dr. Haynes added.

He emphasised the importance of Caricom to Barbados, saying that "it lies to the root of our economic development."

Dr. Haynes said that the governments had to find some other way of dealing with the problems of Caricom, and said that the future of the regional movement depended on the attitude of the Trinidad and Tobago Government.

GRENADA

BISHOP TERMS WHITE HOUSE MEETING 'USEFUL'

FL092042 Bridgetown CANA in English 1915 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] United Nations, June 9, CANA-REUTER -- The prime minister of Grenada, Maurice Bishop, said today his recent meeting with senior United States officials was a useful first step that could lay the basis for renewing bilateral relations.

"We have agreed that the contents of the meeting itself will remain secret, and therefore I am not really at liberty to disclose the details of what we spoke about," he told a press conference at United Nations Headquarters.

Relations between the U.S. and Grenada's pro-Cuban revolutionary government have been strained, and during a visit to the United Nations six days ago Bishop accused Washington of arrogance in refusing to let him meet President Reagan. It was suggested that he confer instead with the U.S. ambassador to the Organisation of American States.

But commenting today on talks he held on Tuesday with White House National Security Adviser William Clark and Acting Secretary of State Kenneth Dam he said: "In our view, the meeting constituted a useful first step in renewing bilateral relations between our two governments."

Asked whether there would be further contacts with the U.S. Administration, the prime minister said: "We certainly hope so. A number of proposals were made by us. They have promised to get back in touch with us...we hope very soon. These proposals had to do with, in essence, formalising a mechanism for ensuring ongoing dialogue between our two governments."

In response to questions about Reagan administration charges that Grenada was building a military airfield, Bishop said this was "nothing but a big joke" and a "piece of mythology" which he hoped had been dispelled.

Regarding alleged fears of any invasion of Grenada, engineered by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, he said there was a "fair chance that the timing of the threat, as opposed to the threat itself, may have been pushed back. I do not believe myself that the danger of the threat has been completely removed," he added.

Bishop also strongly condemned the execution today of three members of the African National Congress (ANC) in South Africa, saying the act, by a "regime that is illegal," was itself "illegal and barbarous."

JAMAICA

WPJ PRAISES CARICOM FOR DECLARATION ON C.A.

FL092205 Bridgetown CANA in English 2145 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Excerpts] Kingston, Jamaica, June 9, CANA -- The Marxist-Leninist Workers Party of Jamaica today congratulated Caribbean Community (Caricom) foreign ministers for their assertion last week that the conflicts in Central America could not be seen primarily as an East/West ideological dispute. The WPJ also commented on the ministers' call for an end to foreign intervention, the training of mercenaries, and cross border conflicts in the region. But at the same time the WPJ urged the foreign ministers to be "bolder in their public condemnation and criticism of the United States, which bears the main responsibility."

The WPJ, which according to opinion polls here would control anywhere between one and three percent of the Jamaican electorate, was reacting to the outcome of the Caricom Foreign Ministers Conference in Antigua last week.

The WPJ said that although the ministers did not call the U.S. by name it was common knowledge that the Reagan administration had not only given backing to the invasion of Nicaragua from Honduras and Costa Rica, but had also announced plans to train mercenaries against the Sandinista revolution and was entertaining discussion on whether to send troops to El Salvador, where its military advisors were helping the government.

"The statement by the foreign ministers therefore deserves support because it reflects the true feelings of the majority of the peoples of the region who wish to settle our problems without big-stick interference in our affairs," the WPJ said.

It said that the foreign ministers' statement was an assertion of independence, but complained that the grouping was not always consistent or regional governments "would not be so eager to go along with the isolation of Grenada in exchange for CBI funds."

The opposition People's National Party and its president, Michael Manley, have consistently taken issue with the U.S. interpretation of events in Central America.

BOLIVIA

GOVERNMENT WAGES 'WAR' ON DRUG TRAFFICKERS

PY091434 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Mario Roncal has stated that the government has undertaken an all-out war against drug trafficking and that important leaders of the underworld have been arrested. Moreover, the interior minister reported that an operation was carried out this past weekend in the Chapare area. Regarding press reports that there had been a clash, the interior minister stated that an operation was indeed carried out, that the criminals offered resistance, and that they managed to escape. Mario Roncal noted that the police had confiscated 9 kg of cocaine.

Expanding his previous statement, the interior minister said that although the criminals tried to stop the police from entering (Sinahoca), the incident did not have the characteristics of a clash.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

CUBA, USSR BUY 40 PERCENT OF SUGAR EXPORTS

FL091115 Santo Domingo Radio Earth in English 0330 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic -- The economical editor of the Dominican afternoon paper ULTIMA HORA, (Hector Linares), today reported that Cuba, one of the major sugar producers in the world, last year bought 12 percent of the total Dominican sugar export, becoming in this way the third largest crude sugar buyer of this country.

The Soviet Union and Cuba together bought 40 percent of the total Dominican sugar export of 1982. This is the first time that Cuba buys the sweet product from the Dominican Republic and the third buy of the Soviet Union.

BRIEFS

SUGAR SALE -- Santo Domingo, June 3, CANA-REUTER -- The Dominican Republic State Sugar Council (CEA) said today it sold 30,000 tonnes of sugar on the international market. The sugar was bought in two public auctions by the firms Czarnikow Rionda and Czarnikow Ltd., both of New York, the CEA said. Czarnikow Rionda bought 15,000 tonnes at 13.67 cents per pound, to be delivered in March and May 1984. Czarnikow Ltd bought 15,000 tonnes at 12.04 cents per pound for delivery in July and September this year. The Dominican Republic resumed sugar sales on the international market last week after a two-week suspension called by the CEA because of low prices. International sugar prices have risen recently to nearly double the last five-month average price of 6.69 cents per pound. [Bridgetown CANA in English 0002 GMT 4 Jun 83 FL]

MEXICO

PEMEX ANNOUNCES DEBT PAYMENT GUARANTEED

FL100122 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2150 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Mexico, 9 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- Exports of the state-run company Mexican Petroleum [Pemex] have reached $16 billion this year, while its foreign debt is $20 billion, according to sources here today.

In a press release, the Mexican petroleum company indicated that its foreign sales are currently 500,000 barrels of crude oil per day. The release specified that even though the company's foreign debt could be covered with 1 and 1/2 year's exports, short-term liquidation of the debt is considered inadvisable because Pemex has numerous expenses, primarily as a result of acquisition of material and equipment from abroad.

Nevertheless, it was stated that the payment of the debt is fully guaranteed by petroleum production as well as exports and reserves, which are currenly 72 billion barrels of hydrocarbons plus 200 billion barrels of potential reserves.

SURINAME

MINISTER SITAL RESIGNS OVER 'DIFFERENCES'

FL092052 Bridgetown CANA in English 1800 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, June 9, CANA -- Suriname's Minister of Popular Mobilisation and Culture, Badresein Sital, has resigned -- three months after his appointment -- because of differences between himself and the country's revolutionary leadership, according to the National Information Centre. The state-run centre said Army strongman Lieutenant Colonel Daysi Bouterse had accepted the resignation.

The centre said "serious differences" had been developing since some time "between the revolutionary leadership (Policy Centre, Council of Ministers and the central cadres of the revolution) on one side and Minister Sital on the other side."

The two sides were said to have had differences on matters relating to the defence of the revolution and the organisation of the people for liberation and production.

Sital was appointed on March 1 in a new 12-member cabinet to replace on the military rulers asked to resign amid political unrest here last December. He had been minister of public health in the former cabinet.

The information service said Sital's resignation must be viewed in the light of strengthening the unity within the revolutionary ranks.

Suriname's military leaders came to power in 1980 in a coup.

URUGUAY

GOVERNMENT NOT TO GRANT LEGAL STATUS TO PCU, PSU

PY091848 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Comaspo [Armed Forces Political Affairs Commission] President Julio Cesar Rapela announced a few minutes ago that neighter the Communist Party (PCU) nor the Socialist Party (PSU) will be granted legal status, adding that the same measure might be applied to the Christian Democratic Party. General Rapela also announced that more bans on leaders of the traditional parties may be lifted.